

Syrian diplomat killed in Brussels

BRUSSELS (AP) — A Syrian diplomat was shot and killed in front of his home Wednesday in Brussels, police reported. He was identified as First Secretary Antonios Hanna, also acting as official spokesman for the embassy. The shooting by an unidentified assailant occurred around 9:30 p.m. (1430 GMT), police said. Investigators told reporters that Mr. Hanna had been shot several times as he left his home on Avenue Montfleur to Uccle, a Brussels suburb. Witnesses told police he was shot by a lone man who fled the scene on foot. Mr. Hanna died instantly and efforts by paramedics to revive him were vain, the investigators said. Shortly after the killing, an anonymous phone call to Belgian news agency Belga claimed the "murder of a Syrian secret agent" on behalf of "Syrian Mujahideen." Another anonymous caller said "the chief of Syrian secret services has been executed." Belgian officials said Mr. Hanna, 38, had been appointed to the Brussels embassy four years ago. Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans expressed his condolences to the Syrian ambassador, saying the Belgian government was "shocked by the cowardly attack."

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Zia and Evren discuss Gulf war

ANKARA (R) — Pakistan President Zia Ul Haq discussed the Gulf war on Wednesday with Turkish President Kenan Evren but said afterwards they had nothing new to propose in the search for peace. Zia, on the second day of his six-day official visit to Turkey, told a news conference. "Unfortunately we have nothing more to offer than those (peace) which already has been offered," he said. On Tuesday night, the Pakistani leader told a banquet the Iran-Iraq war threatened the security of the whole region and that Turkey and Pakistan, both members of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), should continue their efforts to end the war. Asked his views on Wednesday on the presence of the Soviet Union and the United States in the Gulf, Gen. Zia said: "It is full of dynamite, it can explode."

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Moroccan leader lauds Jordanian efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — King Hassan II of Morocco has praised His Majesty King Hussein's endeavours towards convening a successful Arab summit in a bid to achieve Arab solidarity and confront dangers and challenges facing the Arab Nation. The Moroccan monarch, in a telephone conversation with King Hussein on Wednesday, expressed his willingness to contribute to efforts aimed at ensuring the success of the extraordinary Arab summit scheduled to be held in Amman on Nov. 8. King Hassan wished His Majesty success in his efforts and endeavours.

King and Queen to visit Finland

AMMAN (Petra) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor will pay a state visit to Finland as of mid-October at the invitation from President Mauno Koivisto and Mrs. Koivisto, the Royal Court announced Wednesday. During the four-day visit, the King will hold talks with the Finnish president on bilateral cooperation and relations as well as regional and international issues of common interest.

Yugoslavia: No ties with Israel

DUBAI (R) — Yugoslavia's foreign minister said in an interview published Wednesday his country would consider resuming diplomatic ties with Israel only if the Jewish state grants Palestinians their right to self-determination. "If Israel makes a positive change in its policy towards the occupied Arab lands and returns to the Palestinians their rights then there is a chance to review our (bilateral) relations," Raif Dizdarevic told the United Arab Emirates Al Itihad newspaper. The minister, speaking from the United Nations, said he refused to discuss the issue of resuming ties in a meeting last week at the U.N. with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Israeli broadcasting off the air

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli radio and television went off the air on Wednesday when broadcast journalists began an indefinite strike over wages and work conditions. The blackout, which did not affect armed forces radio and educational television, came at the start of Israel's seven-day Sukkot festival, when special entertainment shows are broadcast. The broadcasters want a 20 per cent pay rise similar to an increase recently paid to print journalists, but management says the workers are bound by a public sector wage freeze imposed under the Israeli government's economic recovery programme.

Greece to get Soviet gas

ATHENS (AP) — Greece and the Soviet Union on Wednesday signed an agreement launching a \$2 billion project to supply Greek cities with Soviet natural gas. Industry Ministry officials said a 700-kilometre pipeline from Bulgaria would carry up to two billion cubic metres of natural gas annually to Greece from 1992. Soviet Foreign Trade Under-Secretary Benjamin Korolov said at the signature ceremony that Greece would be the 14th European country buying Soviet natural gas.

Iranian gunboats raid Saudi tanker; Iraqis bomb radio station in west Iran

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iranian gunboats ambushed a Saudi Arabian tanker in the southern Gulf on Wednesday, and shipping executives predicted more such attacks as Tehran seeks revenge for heavy Iraqi air raids on its oil shipping industry.

Shipping sources said they could not substantiate reports, based on monitored radio messages, of a second attack against an unidentified container ship in the same area. Baghdad Radio said Iraqi warplanes bombed a radio station at Elam in western Iran, scoring "destructive hits." Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency said one person was killed and others wounded. Reports circulated that Iran was massing its fleet of small gunboats off Kharg Island in the northern Gulf (see page 2), but U.S. military sources here said they could not confirm details of any such activity. The Iranian attack on the Saudi tanker on Wednesday occurred in an area where possible mines were also reported and a 12-ship convoy was spotted nearby. Shipping sources quoted by Reuters said the Iranians fired rocket-propelled grenades and armour-piercing rockets at the 21,032-tonne bunkering vessel Rasad Al Bakry off the Dubai coast. Damage was said to be minor and there were no reports of casualties. In the same area, off the coast of Sharjah emirate, a makeshift convoy of 12 merchant vessels was sighted moving westwards, into the Gulf, flying the flags of five different nations. Five of the ships were Japanese. All Japanese vessels are now under orders to sail in convoys when in the Gulf. Fear of mines prompted a new warning to ships in the vicinity of the attack on the Saudi vessel. A tanker captain reported two sightings of "unidentified floating objects" early on Wednesday off Dubai. Khor Dubai Radio broadcast their locations and said: "Vessels should keep a sharp lookout and report any sightings to this station."

Qadhafi confident of success in his Gulf peace effort

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has expressed confidence that he can succeed in ending the Iran-Iraq war, the official Libyan news agency (JANA) reported on Wednesday. "The leader of the revolution voiced his deep regret at the latest escalation in the Gulf war and asserted that only the Iraqi and Iranian people will lose from the acts of violence," said the agency, monitored in Beirut. "The leader stressed his determination to end the Gulf war and made it clear that Libya had enough confidence it could succeed in this historic act and that the Iraqi and Iranian people could not bear this war any more."

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Rafsanjani warns of 'catastrophe' in Gulf

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iran's Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani warned on Wednesday that the Western military build-up in the Gulf might lead to a "catastrophe," Iran's news agency IRNA said. In a meeting with the Belgian ambassador in Tehran, Victor Allard, the Iranian leader also criticised West European nations for following the United States in sending their fleets to the Gulf, reported IRNA, monitored in Nicosia. "If it had not been for our patience, the catastrophe might have already occurred," said Mr. Rafsanjani. He said Iran was doing all it could to prevent such a catastrophe, but its patience was running low because of "pressure by the Iranian people as well as the events," IRNA reported. Belgium — like Britain, France, Italy and the Netherlands — has sent warships to the Gulf after the U.S. navy began escorting Kuwaiti-owned tankers in the waterway in July. Some 80 Western warships are in or en route to the Gulf region. IRNA said Mr. Allard stressed that Belgium was neutral to the Iran-Iraq war and asked that Tehran consider the Belgium action an unaggressive move. Mr. Rafsanjani told Mr. Allard the Europeans had displayed a lack of independence from Washington by their actions.

Gorbachev message to Reagan described as 'very positive'

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Soviet politburo member Viktor Nikonov met U.S. President Ronald Reagan on Wednesday and delivered a positive message from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Following the meeting with Mr. Reagan, Mr. Nikonov would say only that the message was a general greeting from Mr. Gorbachev. Asked if it dealt with a U.S.-Soviet summit, he said: "The final date will be determined at the time Secretary Shultz goes to Moscow." Secretary of State George Shultz is scheduled to visit Moscow on Oct. 22 and 23. Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev are expected to meet in Washington before year-end. U.S. officials have said a likely time is in November. The United States and the Soviet Union have agreed in principle to conclude a treaty to abolish intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF), and it is expected that Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev will sign the treaty at their summit. On Tuesday, Mr. Gorbachev stressed the need for further steps towards disarmament after the signing of the INF agreement with the United States later this year on the elimination of some 2,000 medium-range missiles. Speaking at a dinner in Moscow on Tuesday for visiting Finnish President Mauno Koivisto, Mr. Gorbachev said he hoped the agreement would pave the way for greater improvement in the international climate. "We hope... we will be able to start the reduction of the strategic armed forces of the USSR and the United States by 50 per cent in conditions of strict observance" (Continued on page 3)

American Civil Liberties Union to defend PLO office case

By Clifford D. May
The New York Times
WASHINGTON — The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), anticipating intense and widespread opposition among its supporters, has decided to defend the right of an agent of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to run an information office here. "We're working on the details now," Ira Glasser, executive director of the ACLU, said of the decision, which has not been officially announced. "But we are going to represent him. We see this as clearly a free speech issue." On Sept. 16 the State Department notified Hassan Abdul Rahman, a United States citizen who heads the Palestine Information Office in Washington, that his status had been changed from foreign agent to head of a foreign mission. The State Department then sent to Mr. Rahman a second letter ordering the mission closed by Oct. 15. That move was interpreted by many as a manoeuvre aimed at heading off even stronger congressional action. Bills introduced in the house by Representative Jack F. Kemp, Republican of upstate New York, and Rep. Daniel A. Mica, Democrat of Florida, and in the Senate by Senator Charles R. Grassley, Republican of Iowa, and Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg, Democrat of New Jersey, would shut not only the PLO-financed information office in Washington but also the PLO mission to the United Nations in New York. The bills have attracted several dozen co-sponsors, ranging from Senator Jesse Helms, Republican of North Carolina, on the right, to Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, on the left. "I'm afraid even the good guys on civil liberties are going to be against us on this one," said Mr. Glasser. He noted that the ACLU had provoked bipartisan political outrage in the past, such as when it represented American Nazis demanding the right to march in Skokie, Illinois, in 1977, and when it has defended Ku Klux Klan members seeking to demonstrate in black neighbourhoods. The common denominator in all these cases, Mr. Glasser said, is that they fall under the umbrella of the First Amendment. He contended that both the State Department's action and the pending legislation violated Mr. Rahman's constitutional right of free expression. "Rahman is legally registered as an agent of the PLO, under the Foreign Agent Registration Act," Mr. Glasser said. "He's a United States citizen who is not accused of having violated any laws. Basically, he's just running an information booth." Mr. Glasser added that the silencing of an American who spoke on behalf of the PLO would include rebels in Nicaragua, Afghan rebels and anti-abortion activists linked to individuals who have bombed abortion clinics. "There is an important distinction between advocacy and conduct, and that distinction must be maintained," Mr. Glasser said. Rebutting that view, Mr. Kemp, a candidate for his party's presidential nomination, argued that neither the State Department action nor the house and Senate bills would stop anyone from saying anything. As a private citizen, Mr. Kemp said, Mr. Rahman has the right to espouse any policy or ideology he chooses. What he aims to prevent, the legislator added, is the "embedding of a terrorist organisation like the PLO in our midst as an official presence" and the receiving of funds by an American from an organisation engaged in "terrorism." "He can be the PLO's advocate but not its agent," Mr. Kemp said. Mr. Kemp said he had introduced the legislation because the

Iraq urges imposition of sanctions on Iran

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz has called for the imposition of strict sanctions against Iran without delay. In a letter to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Mr. Aziz said that while the whole world affirmed the need to end the Gulf war through full implementation of the Security Council's July 20 ceasefire resolution, Iran continued "manoeuvring, committing crimes and shuffling the deck to resist the will of the international community."

Mr. Aziz, whose letter was circulated as a news release by Iraq's U.N. mission on Tuesday, said Iran on Monday "implemented its criminal plan to escalate the war on cities" by launching two surface-to-surface missiles against Baghdad. Calling on the council to draw "precise and correct conclusions" from Iran's behaviour, he said: "The first step is to begin without delay to impose strict sanctions against this criminal outlawed regime in accordance with the United Nations Charter." While the July resolution holds out the threat of sanctions in case of non-compliance, council members are still considering further diplomatic moves aimed at getting Iran to accept the resolution. The Christian Science Monitor Reports: The Reagan administration's drive to bring an end to the Iran-Iraq war has run into the slow pace of United Nations diplomacy in New York. However, Secretary of State George Shultz says he is confident that there will be enough votes to impose U.N. arms sanctions on Iran, if U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar does not soon make progress in getting Iran to agree to a ceasefire. The U.S. has slowed its drive to place U.N. arms sanctions on Iran. The goal is to press Tehran to accept a ceasefire in its war with Iraq under the terms of Resolution 598.

King cables congratulations to Mubarak

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday sent a telegram to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak congratulating him on his reelection for a second term in a nation-wide referendum. In the telegram the King expressed his pleasure and conveyed best wishes for President Mubarak and the Egyptian people. The King also said that the reelection of President Mubarak was a "clear sign of the will of the free Egyptian people and declaration of the Egyptian peoples' allegiance to their leader."



The King wished President Mubarak success in his mission for the next six years. On Tuesday King Hussein contacted President Mubarak over the phone to congratulate him on his reelection. The King expressed his delight over the result of the referendum and said it reflected the Egyptian people's confidence in the leadership of Mr. Mubarak. The reelection of the Egyptian leader was good news for all Arabs, the King said. Mr. Mubarak won a thumping 97 per cent "yes" vote in the

referendum. A high 88.5 per cent of the electorate turned out to cast their ballots on Monday to back Mr. Mubarak. Egyptian Interior Minister Zaki Badr said on Monday that out of 12,445,022 valid votes cast, 12,086,327 or 97.12 per cent said "yes." Those who opposed a second term numbered 358,695, or 2.88 per cent. Mr. Badr said, AP adds: Iraqi President Saddam Hussein telephoned President Mubarak to congratulate him for winning a second six-year term. Iraqi Television reported Wednesday. It said President Hussein made the call hours after the Egyptian government made public the result of the referendum held Tuesday. The television broadcast said President Hussein wished President Mubarak "success and the Egyptian people progress."

Shin Bet agent and 4 Arabs killed in Gaza gunbattle

OCCUPIED GAZA (Agencies) — An Israeli security agent and four Palestinians were killed in heavy gunbattle on Tuesday in the occupied Gaza Strip. According to an Israeli army statement, the gunbattle took place at 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday near Gaza City about two kilometres south of the entrance to the Gaza Strip. The fighting lasted only a few minutes. The army statement said two of the Palestinians were among a group of prisoners who escaped from Gaza prison last May. The squad belonged to the Islamic Jihad (holy war), a fundamentalist group which Israeli authorities link to the Fatah movement. The army imposed a curfew on the Shezariya quarter, a suburb of Gaza City where the shootout took place, and on the area where the Palestinians allegedly had their hiding place, the army and the Itim newsagency reported. It also barred fishermen from leaving Gaza port. Israel's southern commander, General Yitzhak Mordechai, told reporters on Wednesday that one of the Palestinians opened fire with a Kalashnikov assault rifle when Israeli soldiers stopped his car at the Shezariya road junction in Gaza City. "Soldiers immediately attacked the car and killed" three of the Arabs in that car, Gen. Mordechai said. Israeli soldiers spotted another car trying to flee the area and shot dead the driver when he tried to escape on foot. Military censors suppressed news of the incident for more than 10 hours and photographers were barred from the area. Gen. Mordechai claimed Israel had smashed "one of the most dangerous and intricate gangs" in the Gaza Strip. An army spokesman said two of the dead men, Sami Mohammad Sheikh Khalil and Mohammad Abdullah Al Jamal, were among six prisoners who escaped from an Israeli prison in Gaza in May. Three of the escapees remain at large. He identified the dead Israeli agent as an employee of the Shin Bet secret service. The other two Palestinians were named as Fayed Hamad Qasim Arbeli and Ahmad Omer Khalas. AP photographer Anat Givon

later saw two Kalashnikov rifles, a U.S.-designed M-16 rifle, two Beretta pistols and about 25 magazines of Israeli-made Uzi submachine and Kalashnikov rifle bullets, at an army headquarters near Beersheba. Gen. Mordechai said the group may have been linked to the recent killings of two Israelis, taxi driver Galil Jarousi, shot to death on May 25, 1987 and army captain Ron Tal, killed on August 2, 1987. According to Gen. Mordechai, Tuesday's incident began when a unit patrolling the Shezariya quarter spotted a car which aroused suspicion. One of the Israeli soldiers thought he spotted a passenger carrying a gun. The patrol ordered the occupants to stop but they tried to escape, Gen. Mordechai said. The Israeli soldiers alerted other military vehicles which joined the chase. They stopped the car at the Shezariya junction but as the soldiers approached the vehicle to investigate, the occupants inside opened fire, killing the Shin Bet man, Gen. Mordechai said. The officers shot back and killed all three men.

Shultz changes residence plans to placate Israelis

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli officials said Wednesday U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has cancelled plans to stay near Tel Aviv during his forthcoming visit. The change was apparently aimed at placating right-wing politicians who saw the move as a rejection of Israel's claim of sovereignty over Jerusalem. Mr. Shultz is scheduled to arrive in Israel Oct. 16 as part of a Middle East swing before his trip to Moscow later this month. State Department spokesman Charles Redman said Tuesday Mr. Shultz would stay in Jerusalem during his three-day trip. But Israeli officials said they understood Mr. Shultz' initial plans were to base himself in the town of Herzliya north of Tel Aviv. Legislators from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc reacted angrily to the plans, which they said amounted to a symbolic protest against Israel's claim of Jerusalem as its "eternal and indivisible capital."

"If the secretary takes this position in a visit here, imagine what position he would take toward Israel in peace talks," Likud caucus chairman Chaim Kaufman said Tuesday on an Israel Radio show. Mr. Kaufman said Wednesday he believed Mr. Shultz changed his plans when he realised what a political uproar they had caused in some Israeli circles. "Shultz is a smart man," Mr. Kaufman said in a telephone interview. "He realised that making a symbolic move at this time was not in the best interests of his visit." Two Israeli officials who demanded anonymity confirmed a Jerusalem Post newspaper report that Mr. Shultz had cancelled plans to stay in Herzliya at the residence of U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering. Although Mr. Shamir refrained from publicly voicing concern over where Mr. Shultz was staying, an aide who demanded anonymity said: "We are glad in any event he is staying in Jerusalem and not Herzliya." Mr. Shamir's spokesman Yossi Ahimeir noted Mr. Shultz had stayed in Jerusalem on previous visits, as had former President Jimmy Carter and former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. "On behalf of the prime minister, I can say he (Mr. Shamir) didn't consider it a matter of principle where Secretary Shultz stays," Ahimeir said. Mr. Shultz is expected to discuss peace moves with Israeli leaders during his visit. Aides to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, leader of the Labour Party, were quoted by Israel media as saying they believe Mr. Shultz will bring proposals aimed at convincing Mr. Shamir to accept a proposed international peace conference. The conference proposal has divided Israel's coalition government with Mr. Peres supporting it and Mr. Shamir adamantly opposed to it. In addition to scheduled meetings with Mr. Shamir and Mr. Peres, Mr. Shultz has planned a discussion with a group of prominent Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

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'Roof for homeless Palestinians — please

UNRWA urgent appeal to warring Lebanese factions

Home news

Health team reports shortage of nurses

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is in need of an additional 844 nurses at present, and will be in need of many more from now until the year 2,000, according to the findings of a special Health Ministry committee charged with assessing Jordan's need for nurses.

The committee, which met Wednesday, said in a statement that it had worked out a plan for covering the national need for nurses and recommended that at least 370 nurses be turned out from the nursing schools and colleges every year until the year

2,000 — an increase from the present rate of 300 annually.

The committee based its decision on international studies which take into consideration the number of nurses and assistant nurses required for running the health services in the country, according to the statement.

It said that the committee members, at their Wednesday meeting, discussed the question of recruiting and training midwives and substituting foreign nurses with local nurses.

Jordan and Turkey seek balance in trade

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Industry, Trade, and Supply Rajai Muasher met on Wednesday with a Turkish delegation and discussed the implementation of a Jordanian-Turkish trade and economic protocol signed last November.

The delegation represents Turkey's side to the joint Jordanian-Turkish economic committee which opened meetings here Tuesday.

The Jordanian side to the talks is led by Mr. Mohammad Saqqaf, under-secretary of the Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Supply. Most of the discussion during the meetings has centred on Jordan's phosphate exports to Turkey, and on exchanging expertise in the fertilizer and mining industries.

Under the terms of the protocol, both sides agreed to work towards balancing imports and exports, since the present balance of trade is in favour of Turkey. Under the renewed protocol, Turkey said it would purchase a minimum of 150,000 tonnes of Jordanian phosphate during 1987, and would increase its imports of Jordan's potash, pharmaceutical products, and drip irrigation equipment.

The talks were conducted by Turkish Minister of Trade and Commerce Cahit Aral, who said that he would encourage private Turkish companies and import agencies to increase their imports from Jordan. Following the talks here, the two sides are expected to sign the minutes of their deliberations.

Masri receives credentials from three new appointees

AMMAN (J.T.) — The newly-appointed Canadian ambassador to Jordan, Michael Bell, on Wednesday met with Minister of Foreign Affairs Taher Al Masri and presented him a copy of his credentials. Mr. Bell succeeds Mr. Gary Harman who had been ambassador in Jordan since 1985.

The foreign minister also received on Wednesday a copy of the credentials of Mr. Datu Lila Haj Mohammad Qasem Daoud, the designate-ambassador to Jordan from the Sultanate of Brunei,

as well as the credentials of Dr. Ali Ahmed Attiga, resident representative of the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) in Jordan.

Dr. Attiga, a Libyan national, served in high-level positions in the Libyan government before joining the international civil service. He served with the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) as its secretary general from 1974 to September 1987.

W. German folklore troupe invites all to join march

AMMAN (J.T.) — Anyone interested in a short walk along with the sounds of traditional West German wind instruments and tamborines can do so by joining a march-with-music parade, an event which kicks off today, Thursday, from the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel (at 11 a.m.) and ends at the main entrance of the Greater Amman Municipality.

The festival march will be led by the West German folklore troupe "Die Isertaler Blasmusik". The German group is expected to hand over to Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh a letter of friendship and a golden key from the mayor of the West German city of Munich.

The West German troupe, which performed the same march last October, attracted a huge crowd of adults and school children, who joined in the march. As part of the Kingdom's celebrations marking the Arab and International Child Day, Die Isertaler Blasmusik will hold a music festival at the SOS children's village in Tabarbour on Saturday Oct. 10, 1987.

The Jordan Intercontinental Hotel has organised the festival, during which gifts and sweets will be distributed to the orphaned children being housed and cared

for at the SOS village.

The German troupe has held a number of musical festivals in Jordan since 1982, upon the request of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel in cooperation with Royal Jordanian, in contribution to voluntary work in Jordan.

The West German folk troupe has also been taking part in the annual Oktoberfest which is held in West Germany, in general, and in the state of Bavaria, in particular. The festival celebrating the annual harvest involves the sale of food and drink, popular musical festivals, as well as folkloric performances. A sample of the West German troupe's performance skills will be presented at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel until Oct. 10.

Reagan receives message

(Continued from page 1)

of the ABM treaty," Mr. Gorbachev said.

Mr. Gorbachev did not refer to the main stumbling block in future negotiations, Mr. Reagan's strategic arms initiative (SDI), which Moscow has said must be scrapped before there can be any deal on strategic missiles.

Foreign analysts said the omission was a further indication that Moscow is prepared to take a more flexible line on SDI, following advances in the same field by Soviet scientists.

Mr. Gorbachev went on to express hopes for progress on banning nuclear weapon testing and solving the problem of troop imbalances in Europe.

"Given the will, the balances and imbalances can be soon sorted out. We should be able to determine who has more of what and to start evening out levels," he said.

The Pentagon said Tuesday the Soviet Union had again rejected a suggestion that its defence minister travel to Washington for meetings with Defence Secretary

Caspar Weinberger.

Mr. Weinberger, hoping to break a deadlock over arrangements for such a session, has now suggested consultations with Soviet Defence Minister Dmitri Yazov be held in New York City next week. Defence Department spokesman Fred Hoffman added.

Hoffman said Mr. Weinberger made the suggestion in a letter to Mr. Yazov on Monday but no reply has been received.

In another field of superpower issues, Soviet officials are scheduled to visit a U.S. chemical weapons destruction facility next month as part of an effort to build confidence.

U.S. State Department spokesman Charles Redman, who announced on Tuesday the visit to the Tooele, Utah, plant would take place Nov. 19-20, noted that Moscow had refused a previous inspection tour in 1983.

He apparently sought to counter the publicity generated last weekend when the Soviet Union opened its top-secret chemical warfare centre at Shikhan to foreign disarmament negotiators,

Crown Prince urges housing plan based on social development

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said on Wednesday that the housing strategy in Jordan should, in the future, be based on the principle of promoting social development in the Kingdom.

Addressing a meeting at the Housing Corporation to discuss integrated policies on housing in Jordan, Prince Hassan said that the planners of these projects should take into consideration the districts where the housing will be set up and the population it will serve. The future housing projects should provide for different social, health and educational activities, as well as serving as homes. For this reason, careful planning is required to ensure a successful scheme, the Crown Prince said.

He stressed that housing projects should be built in such a way that they have a balanced relationship with the different organisations and economic and social activities that originally exist. In addition, they should have basic infrastructure and services, and employ essentially local raw and primary material.

During the meeting, agreement was reached on holding a special symposium during which a plan will be created for a Jordanian housing strategy.

The meeting was attended by the president of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), Dr. Jawad Al Anani, the secretary-general of the Ministry of Planning, Dr. Ziyad Fariz, the director-general of the Housing Corporation, Mr.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan leaves the Housing Corporation after, on Wednesday, addressing a conference on devising a housing strategy for Jordan (Petra photo)

Shafiq Zawaideh, and the director of the Urban Development Department.

The meeting followed Tuesday's seminar, held at the RSS, to discuss means for reducing the cost of building, in harmony with the country's observation of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

The Housing Bank, which finances most housing projects in the country, said Tuesday that Jordan will need to build over 430,000 housing units during the coming two decades. Housing Bank Deputy General Manager Bassam Atari said in a lecture that nearly 85 per cent of the units, or about 360,000, will be needed for low-income families. Mr. Atari ex-

pects JD 2.9 billion to be invested in housing projects over the coming 20 years to meet the needs of the growing population.

Last month, a newly-formed national committee charged with organising activities and celebrations for the Arab Housing Day held several meetings to discuss developing an informational plan for housing that would involve various sectors. The plan would focus on the need to handle all housing issues by considering the human element, as well as financial and land matters.

The committee announced that several housing projects will be inaugurated in the country on Oct. 15, marking the Arab Housing Day.

Muasher outlines investment areas for Kuwaiti businessmen

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajai Muasher conferred here Wednesday with a delegation of Kuwaiti investors and businessmen working for the Kuwaiti Fund for Economic Development (KFED).

The talks focused on projects in which Kuwaiti businessmen can participate, specifically cereal production, processing of fodder, and livestock breeding in southern Jordan. Also discussed were the prospects of building a tourist

village at Dhibin and chalets on the beach of Aqaba with Kuwaiti investors' money.

The delegation later met with Ministry of Industry under secretary Mohammad Saqqaf to discuss cooperation between the KFED and Jordan. The Kuwaiti team had earlier visited Aqaba and met with Aqaba Region Authority Director Dureid Mahasneh, with whom they toured port installations and development projects.

The delegation's visit was recommended by a two-day confer-

ence held in Kuwait last April to promote investments in Jordan. The conference's final communiqué said that Kuwaiti investors and businessmen expressed desire to invest capital in Jordanian projects.

Dr. Muasher, who addressed the conference, outlined projects included in the 1986-1990 five-year development plan. He also explained incentives, privileges and exemptions offered to investors, as provided for by Jordanian law on encouraging investments.

Queen Noor patronises Arab Child Day events

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Wednesday patronised various activities in celebration of the Arab and International Child Day. Arab social development ministers agreed in Tunisia in 1983 to jointly celebrate the Arab and International Child Days on the first Monday of October, in recognition of the universal challenge to address the urgent needs and future aspirations of children throughout the world.

Queen Noor met at the Noor Al Hussein Foundation with participants from the Ministry of Health; the Ministry of Information; Yarmouk University's Department of Journalism and Mass Communications; the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); the Jordan Family Planning Association and USAID/Jordan in a workshop on the foundation's Health Communications Project.

This project, and today's workshop, were organised and developed by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, in cooperation with the Academy for Education Development in Washington, D.C. and with funding from USAID/Jordan to enhance participants' working knowledge and creative skills for designing and producing media programmes to generate a greater public awareness of health problems facing mother and child in Jordan.

Also at the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Haj Hassan presented to the Queen the final results and recommendations of a comprehensive study on the Jordanian child. Undertaken by the Committee of

the Jordanian Child Study in 1984, this study — with funding from the Ministry of Social Development, the Noor Al Hussein Foundation and UNICEF — examined 5,200 Jordanian children between the ages of zero and six years and 2,300 mothers in areas related to:

— Pre-natal, physical and psychological development, as well as nutrition and child-rearing methods.

— The availability of pre-school education, information and cultural services for both the mother and the child.

The findings of this study will be made available at a seminar hosted by the Ministry of Social Development next March.

Schools throughout Jordan are joining in community service-related activities today in celebration of the Arab and International Child Day. Queen Noor, accompanied by Minister of Education Thawqan Hindawi visited two preparatory girls' schools in Al Hashemi Al Shamali.

At the UNRWA school, the Queen helped the 6 to 15-year-old girls plant trees, and visited some of their community service activities, which included a puppet show, school improvement projects, and a community clean-up campaign. At the Hind Bint Othman School, the Queen joined the girls in their community development activities including garden work, mural paintings and a community clean-up and greening programme.

In Al Hashemi Al Shamali, Queen Noor opened a children's park which was built by the Amman Municipality, with special sports and play facilities for community's children. The opening ceremony was attended by the Mayor of Amman and Municipal Council members.

Finally, Queen Noor inaugurated the seminar on In-School Training for Pre-School Teachers, sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Children at the Amman Chamber of Commerce.

This two-day seminar — involving over 100 participants from the Ministry of Education, Yarmouk University, the University of Jordan, the General Union of Voluntary Societies, and private nurseries and kindergarten teachers — will discuss the current status of nurseries and kindergartens in Jordan, review problems facing the development and enhancement of the country's pre-school education programmes, and explore ways to improve training of current and future teachers in this field.

The seminar's recommendations will be used to draft a work plan for training programmes to assist both public and private sector nurseries and kindergartens throughout the country.



Her Majesty Queen Noor greets participants at one of many events, marking Arab Child Day, which she attended on Wednesday (Petra photo)

RSS seminar stresses energy needs, promotion of rural women

AMMAN (J.T.) — A four-day seminar on energy in rural regions and rural women's energy needs ended here Wednesday with a call for all private and public organisations to give attention to the development of rural areas and rural women.

Mohammad Amira, chairman of the executive committee of the seminar, said that the participants recommended organising training courses at the national level to help promote the role of women in rural regions and meet their needs for energy used in domestic affairs and in agriculture.

The seminar urged all information media to assist in spreading awareness and education among women in rural districts, in addition to urging conservation in electricity consumption, Dr. Amira noted. He said that the seminar also urged all regional organisations to help finance projects that improve the lives of rural families, in general, and the conditions of women, in particular.

The seminar recommended the introduction of low-cost cooking facilities for rural homes that can be bought by all limited-income families. The seminar also urged all concerned organisations to help provide water and electricity on a regular basis to rural households and for irrigation, in a bid to save rural women the trouble of carrying water from far places, Dr. Amira noted.

He said that the participants called on United Nations regional organisations to help implement the recommendations of the seminar and to help find alternative sources of energy.

The seminar was organised by the Royal Scientific Society, in cooperation with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation.

Special WHO committee decides to assist Arabs living under occupation

BAGHDAD (Petra) — An Eastern Mediterranean committee formed by the World Health Organisation (WHO), which held meetings in Baghdad in the past week, decided on a number of measures to improve health conditions in the Arab region, according to Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh, who led Jordan's delegation to the committee meetings.

He said that the committee has decided to offer health assistance to the Arab population under Israeli rule and to the Lebanese people. The committee also recommended that no antibiotic drugs be dispensed by pharmacies and drug stores without doctors' prescriptions. In addition, it suggested that Arab states should observe April 7 as a non-smoking day.

The minister said that Jordan is among the foremost countries in the Eastern Mediterranean region which has succeeded in nearly eradicating measles. The measles issue and combating diarrhoea and other children's diseases were among the subjects discussed by the committee members, Dr. Hamzeh said.

United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) Regional Director Richard Reid last week said that measles is almost eradicated in Jordan, Oman and Turkey. Mr. Reid, in earlier interviews with the Jordan Times, said that UNICEF does not feel that a massive nation-wide campaign is necessary in Jordan since the health services here are excellent and well organised.

According to Dr. Hamzeh, the committee members discussed promoting primary health care and held seminars on the subject during the conference. The committee includes representatives from 18 Arab countries and five African nations, and is supervised and sponsored by the WHO.

Artist Yousef Hussein moves beyond stereotypes, paints bedouin with dignity

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — At the British Council this week is a small exhibition of the latest work of Jordanian artist Yousef Hussein. With over 15 years of painting experience and nine solo exhibitions to his credit, Hussein is now an established artist whose work is instantly recognisable.

Hussein adopted his distinctive style early in his career, and by the time of his exhibition at the Goethe Institute in November 1980, he had honed down this technique, which involved using a mixture of acrylic with gouache applied in large brushstrokes, to create dynamic, rushing abstracts. Painted in dark, transparent tones, their only feature was, as often as not, a tiny tree or a diminutive figure set off to one side.

Working full-time as a member of the Public Relations staff in the Design Section of the Royal Jordanian airline inevitably means that Hussein's output and artistic development is slow; so, his work, as seen in this present exhibition, especially in pieces like "Touches" and "Dunes," has altered little over the years.

There are, however, some changes and one of these is the greater incorporation of the figure. A talented draftsman Hussein captures the features of the Jordanian bedouin with skill and perception. He manages to imbibe their weather-beaten faces with a dignity that does not lapse, as does the work of so many other artists when painting



"Ecstasy of the Soul"

this genre, into the romantic or the sentimental. In paintings such as "Portrait of a Bedouin Woman" and "Portrait and Nature," which owe much to the work of that great bedouin portraitist, Mohanna Durra, you feel that these are real faces, not just stereotypes. The way their dislocated torsos hover insubstantially in the landscapes, however, is somewhat disturbing, and one feels Hussein might have made a better statement if he had decided to make the figure less definitive and more ghost-like, thus blending with the ethereal landscape or vice versa.

Hussein's landscapes have also become more defined — trees, mountains and the sea now filling the whole canvas instead of just a small part. Their rather sombre, brooding colours and deserted, windswept atmospheres, seen especially in pieces like,

"Heights," carry 19th century overtones which work to dramatise and give more depth to the image.

One comes away from the exhibition with mixed feelings. On one level, the paintings please while, on another level, they are slightly frustrating, for you feel that an artist of Hussein's calibre is capable of much more deeply satisfying and significant work. Hopefully, one day when he has more time, this will be the case. The exhibition runs until Oct. 11.

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Minimum wage required

MUCH commentary has been devoted to the subject of employment, or rather unemployment, in Jordan over the last few months. What has drawn special attention from Jordanians are the advertisements for employment published in daily newspapers here, some of which have reached the point of absurdity, and serve to underline the urgent need for state action to remedy the unemployment situation. A particularly distressing example of these advertisements is one published in the Arabic daily, Al Ra'i, in its Oct. 5 edition, where the Ministry of Labour and Social Development advertised a job opening at Abu Khalaf grocery store for a labourer to clean the shop. The conditions of employment, as mentioned in the advertisement, were so abhorrent to every civilised norm that one is compelled to refer to them, in order to drive home the slavery-like conditions under which some labourers are required to work. These conditions include a salary of a mere JD 40 per month and work hours from 6 a.m. till 10 p.m. And, to add insult to injury, the applicant was requested to submit certificates of experience. One might tolerate such a grossly unfair offer had it come directly from the proprietor, without the involvement of the government. By including the name of the ministry in an employment advertisement such as this, the government becomes an unwitting accessory to unjust treatment of employees, whether they are Jordanian nationals or otherwise. One would have thought that the bureaucracy would refrain from involvement in such practices, unless they meet the minimum standards that our treaty obligations require of us. This is without mentioning the prerequisites of fair play and decency.

Fortunately, such incidents bring to the fore the need to formulate additional laws in Jordan to safeguard labourers from slavery-like conditions. The first priority of such national legislation should be the incorporation of a "minimum wage" concept into our labour laws and regulations. It is clearly recognised that we are currently encountering an unemployment problem; we must draw attention to the need to protect labourers and employees from the abuses often associated with conditions of unemployment. In other words, this is the time when labourers need our protection from the whims of employers who, sometimes exploit economic difficulties to demand unfair requirements from workers. It will be recalled that the International Labour Organisation (ILO) was established in order to redress the unfair treatment of employees and to free them from the dictates of market circumstances controlled by the interaction of supply and demand. Jordan already has a commendable record in meeting the requirements of various international legislations on work conditions; and it is only natural that we expect our concerned authorities to rectify the existing aberrations in our present labour laws and regulations. May we then expect our newspapers to advertise only humane working conditions and our concerned authorities to refrain from consenting to such published injustice?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Remembering the October war

THE 14th anniversary of the October War passed yesterday as the Arab World was involved in preparations for the coming summit meeting. But the occasion is a real cause of pride for all the Arab peoples since it reminds all of us of the true solidarity that prevailed during the war and the great courage and achievements of the Egyptian and Syrian armed forces. The October War of 1973 entails a very important lesson represented in the fact that the Arab Nation can by no means regain its rights and its lands without unity. The Arab countries which are making ready for a summit meeting in Amman should realise that all the hardships and the setbacks that were inflicted on the Arab Nation came as a result of the gaps that mar the unity of the Arab ranks and continue to cause differences and disputes within the Arab World. The October War was a true Arab victory made up by the Syrian and Egyptian armed forces, backed by Jordan, Iraq, Morocco and other countries. That backing and support represented the true face of solidarity without which no individual Arab state can achieve any success. Unless the enemies of the Arab World are confronted by a united Arab force, they will never recognise our rights in the usurped Arab homeland and will continue to hold on to the occupied parts of Arab territory.

Al Dustour: Jordanian-Iraqi coordination

KING HUSSEIN'S visit to Baghdad and his meeting with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Tuesday were within the framework of consultations and coordination between the political leaderships in Iraq and Jordan. The visit assumes added importance since it comes within the on-going contacts among Arab countries in preparation for the coming summit in Amman and as world nations continue efforts to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 to end the Gulf conflict. Jordan is determined on preparing the ground for a successful summit by narrowing the gap separating Arab leaders and ending differences in their views for the sake of reaching common understanding. The Jordanian endeavour coincides with the current intensive efforts being made within the United Nations organisation for the implementation of Security Council Resolution 598 that would bring an end to the Gulf war and bring peace to the Arab region. The flurry of diplomatic activity follows a unanimous agreement by world nations on the need for implementing the resolution and on ending the seven-year-old war. Despite the world's call for peace, Iran has been escalating the conflict by launching missiles on Baghdad and shelling Basra.

Sawt Al Shaab: King visits Iraq

KING HUSSEIN'S talks in Baghdad with President Saddam Hussein covered the on-going Gulf conflict and underlined the joint stand of the two countries vis-a-vis the Iranian aggression and its consequences on the security and peace of the Arab area. Jordan has been backing Iraq in its war with Iran and supporting its efforts to defend the Arab soil and at the same time to achieve peace in the Gulf region. Supporting Iraq and its people in the face of aggression is a pan-Arab responsibility and should be among the priorities of subjects that should be discussed at the coming summit meeting in Amman. King Hussein who has been visiting different Arab capitals and meeting with Arab leaders is paving the way for a successful summit which would see a true solidarity among Arab leaders in backing Iraq and saving the Arab Nation from further sufferings.

Israel marginalises Negev bedouins

By Irene Ertugrul

ON the outskirts of Beersheba, Israel's principal city in the Negev, stands Omer — the most luxurious Israeli suburb south of Tel Aviv. Within shouting distance of Omer's phalanx of villas and gardens and separated from it by a strip of pitted, rubble-strewn sand stretches a slew of tin and wooden sheds. Some sixty Bedouin families, evicted by the government from their ancestral lands, have lived in Abu Srihan since 1951. But almost four decades later their settlement has still not been provided with either a sewage system or electricity. Its only "amenity" is a single water spout.

For the 45,000 Bedouin living in scores of other Negev communities, which Israel also regards as "illegal," conditions are often worse. Though their settlements are sometimes adjacent to flourishing kibbutzim, founded on land confiscated from the Bedouin, any infrastructure — apart, perhaps, from a trickle of water — is deliberately withheld from them. Through such pressure, the government seeks to prod the Bedouin into moving to the five "concentration" townships, situated on a barren strip east of Beersheba.

Members of the Green Patrol (mostly Arabic-speaking Moroccan Jews who, armed, roam the desert in jeeps) serve as the instrument of government policy. Activated when Ariel Sharon was

minister of agriculture in the late 1970s, the patrol's mission is to clear the Negev of Bedouin with as little publicity as possible.

Tales of brutality by the Green Patrol are commonplace. Moving in while Bedouin men are away from their settlement, they have beaten up women who resist destruction of their homes — shacks, tents and even stone houses erected well before Israel became a state. Crops the Bedouin have grown — winter wheat and barley, as well as olive and fruit trees — are uprooted. Under the charge of "illegal grazing," herds of sheep and goats are often confiscated. These are sometimes sold for profit. More often, they are held in "quarantine" until the owner agrees to pay an extortionate fine. In January, \$55,000 in fines and \$1,300 in legal fees were demanded of two Bedouin families for the release of their 400 sheep.

The only advantage to Bedouin who move to a "concentration" town (buying a tiny plot and usually having to borrow money from a bank to finance a house) is that there their dwelling will be protected from demolition. But, in return for such minimal security, they are obliged to officially renounce any claim to ancestral lands.

Having migrated to the Negev in Byzantine times, the Bedouin were given free rein by a succession of rulers — Arabs, Ottoman

Turks and British mandate authorities — to divide territory according to firm patterns of tribal ownership. Nomadic pastoralism gradually began to be abandoned in favour of agricultural and, by 1931, a British census revealed 89.3 per cent of the Bedouin to be full-time farmers. But neither during Ottoman nor British times were surveys of the Negev (in contrast to other parts of Palestine) undertaken. Official documentation of ownership, therefore, remained scant.

In 1948, during the fighting that led to the establishment of Israel, four fifths of the 95,000 Bedouin in the Negev either fled or were expelled by Jewish forces into Jordan and Egypt. The new Israeli government moved most of the 11,000 Bedouin who remained in the Negev away from their often fertile farmlands and into a drought-prone reservation east of Beersheba. In Beersheba itself, Bedouin homes were bulldozed. The town's large mosque was converted into a museum; its smaller one became a cafe.

To this day, the Bedouin still lay claim to a third of the Negev; territory that they have used for generations. Falling back on whatever evidence they can muster (British aerial photographs and maps, as well as some deeds), they have filed over 3,000 land claims against the state of Israel. Though families have often had

to sell their herds to pay legal fees, these suits have remained stalled to the court system for decades.

Meanwhile, Israel, using legalistic devices familiar in the Galilee and now in the occupied territories, has proceeded to confiscate 90 per cent of the area the Bedouin contest. Territories near Gaza from which the Bedouin had been forcibly expelled in 1951 were seized on the basis of a 1953 law that permitted the state to claim any land that was not in the possession of its owner in 1952. To bypass a law that recognises ownership of land if a settlement does not move for ten years, the Green Patrol has charged into a camp site, killed a few dogs and frightened the settlement elder into moving his tent by a few hundred metres. This nullifies the accumulated years.

In 1979-80, when Israel moved its airfields and training grounds from the Sinai to the Negev following the Camp David agreement, a further huge area (82,000 dunums) of Bedouin land was requisitioned. The Bedouin were given one-tenth of the compensation that Jewish settlers in the Sinai received, and a law was passed forbidding Israeli courts from hearing any appeals from the Bedouin. Later, some of this land — instead of being used for military purposes — was passed on to various kibbutzim.

"We are willing to settle for half the territories we owned," says Nuri Al Uqbi, chairman of an association founded in 1979 to defend the Negev Bedouin. "But it is impossible to take all of our rights and still, as Israel says, want peace."

What the Bedouin seek is the opportunity to live in recognised agricultural settlements and for those to receive the same governmental support as do Jewish cooperative farms. This, the Israelis firmly refuse. "The future of the Negev," Israeli officials say, "lies in industry, not in agriculture." The only option offered the Bedouin is to move to a "concentration" town.

Some 20,000 have already done so — in the hope of at least improving their living conditions. But apart from the opportunity to build a "legal" dwelling, conditions in the townships are indeed grim. Founded fifteen years ago, Rahat — the largest of them, with a population of 16,000 — has still not even been provided with a sewage system.

Most resented by the Bedouin, however, is the fact that the townships are structured in a manner that only seems to aggravate their dispossession. In keeping with Israel's policy of severing Arab connection with the land, no area for agricultural purposes has been allotted in the

townships. Industry, an alternative, is also put beyond the Bedouin's reach. Government restrictions prohibit the establishment of any industry or business enterprise whatsoever in the townships. Residents are thus forced into offering themselves as landless, unskilled labourers to nearby Jewish towns and settlements.

Bedouin anger, particularly among the youth, is mounting. But, scattered and poorly schooled (almost 50 per cent of those born since 1948 when primary education became compulsory are, nevertheless, illiterate), putting forth an effective protest movement seems beyond their present condition. "Of course, we are angry," says Nuri Al Uqbi, "but we try to keep it under the surface because we are afraid to lose what little we have left."

Zaif Templer, a recent American immigrant and one of the handful of Israelis active in helping the Bedouin, is more expressive in his frustration. "South of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, there is no active, viable Jewish left. And the government knows it can step on the Bedouin sector and they won't organise to protest. Five thousand Bedouin on a hunger strike in front of the prime minister's office is just not possible. They lean back with the blows." — Middle East International, London.

Mubarak cools political temperature but fails to ignite popular enthusiasm

By John Rogers
Reuter

CAIRO — After six years in charge of the largest Arab country and with another six in hand, President Hosni Mubarak is still trying to ignite the spark of enthusiasm among Egyptians.

"We like him and we respect him," said a veteran Cairo newspaperman. "But people see him as unexciting and dull."

Mubarak has cooled the political temperature in a volatile country that has seen one president assassinated and fought three wars since a 1952 revolution toppled the monarchy.

And it is this role, as a force for what the government-owned press dubs "security and stability," that won him a second six-year term, until 1993, following a referendum on Monday.

But the problem is apathy. Mubarak himself on Sunday urged voters above all to turn out, even if they voted against giving him a second term. The government machine has been trying to whip up pro-Mubarak fervour.

Chunky and stolid, Mubarak at 59 sometimes looks as though he has had enough of politics.

He won prominence as air force chief in the October 1973 Sinai battles with Israel which led to Egypt's recovery of the peninsula after a 1979 U.S.-brokered peace treaty.

Named vice-president by President Anwar Sadat, he was thrust into the top job when Muslim zealots in the army shot Sadat dead during an anniversary parade on October 6, 1981.

On the eve of the referendum, Mubarak hinted that he had considered bowing out after one term.

"I have, in recent days, passed the most difficult test, but in the end I had no choice but to agree to the will of the people," he said in a televised speech.

A reluctant politician, he never wears military uniform, stressing the civilian nature of Egypt's government rather than its military underpinning.

Mubarak's style of government is consensual and his trademark is caution.

After nearly three decades of dramatic leadership by the flamboyant Sadat and his predecessor Gamal Abdul Nasser, a towering figure in Third World politics of the 1950s and 1960s, he is Jack-



Hosni Mubarak

produce more, have fewer babies — as his recipe for Egypt's economic health.

He has held back from radical economic reforms and, backed by the United States and European Community countries, won International Monetary Fund (IMF) standby help for Egypt's debt-ridden economy on exceptionally lenient terms.

Armed with last May's IMF deal, Egypt is now negotiating rescheduling deals with Western creditor governments.

"It amounts to a political rescheduling," said a Western diplomat.

The West, aware of Egypt's strategic Middle East role controlling the Suez Canal, does not want to force Mubarak into radical steps, such as sharply hiking prices of basic goods, that could spark unrest. He himself has vowed not to take action that would harm the masses.

Apart from being backed by Western governments, Mubarak has gradually improved ties with Moscow and with most Arab states which cut relations over Egypt's treaty with Israel.

Internally, he tolerates opposition by Muslim fundamentalists and leftists as well as established political parties, provided it remains verbal.

He draws the line at violence and subversion for political ends. Police, armed since 1981 with emergency powers of detention, sometimes use them.

During 1985-86, Mubarak saw Egypt through a series of crises, including the still-unresolved murders of two Israeli officials in Cairo, the hijack of the Achille Lauro cruise liner and a rebellion by police conscripts which the army was called in to crush.

Despite such pressures, Mubarak has administered what he calls "doses of democracy," sticking to what foreign diplomats see as a personal commitment.

The result, Egyptians say, is a more open society than Nasser or Sadat tolerated.

Backed by a huge majority in parliament for his National Democratic Party (NDP), Mubarak encourages a multi-party system and opposition newspapers sell in the streets alongside the government-owned national press.

Task force says U.S. should test and encourage Soviet changes

By Lawrence L. Knutson
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States and its Western allies should simultaneously test and encourage the domestic and foreign policy changes put in motion by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, a task force of scholars, corporate executives and former diplomats concludes.

Inaction by the Western alliance could mean abdicating the international agenda to the Soviets and passing up an opportunity to moderate Soviet power and end the arms race, the panel of experts said in a report made available Saturday.

A crucial test for Moscow will be its willingness to march words by deeds by speedily withdrawing Soviet troops from Afghanistan and permitting Afghans to install the government of their choice, the report said.

The United States, on the other hand, should be prepared to dismantle most restrictions on Soviet-American trade if the Kremlin shows solid progress on easing human rights abuses, the task force said.

The underlying conclusion of the report is: "New political

thinking in the East requires new policy thinking in the West."

The report concludes that Gorbachev's agenda is too important to be ignored.

"Such an attitude would put the West perpetually on the defensive, leaving Gorbachev to define the foreign policy agenda himself," the task force concluded.

While the Soviet Union remains "a closed communist society," the report said Gorbachev has undertaken the most far-reaching revamping of the Soviet system in 50 years and has challenged a series of ingrained practices that have stood unchanged since the time of Soviet dictator Josef Stalin.

"From arms control to emigration, the Soviet Union has begun to make changes long advocated by the West," it said.

While it concluded that these changes are not merely cosmetic, it said far more has to be done and that the West should not only encourage the Soviets to move more rapidly, it should test their intentions.

One such key test, it said, is ending the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

"The West must make clear to

the Soviet leadership that continued Soviet occupation of Afghanistan poses strict limits to genuine collaboration... and that a rapid Soviet withdrawal would be a forceful demonstration that the 'new political thinking' has specific policy implications," the task force said.

Western nations, in turn, should strive to provide international guarantees that Afghan soil not be used to jeopardise Soviet security interests, it said.

The Gorbachev policy of "glasnost," or openness, has a long way to go before arriving at anything resembling the level of freedom available in the West but has resulted in a degree of tolerance "unthinkable" just three years ago," the report said.

"The West should insist that the Soviets live up to their human rights commitments, including freedom to emigrate," the report said.

And it added: "It is simply a fact of political life that progressive improvement in Soviet treatment of its own citizens would also make it easier for the U.S. government to press for most-favoured-nation trading status for the USSR."

In the field of arms control, the task force said that Soviet agreement in principle to reduce medium- and shorter-range nuclear-armed missiles in Europe to zero underscores the need to press for reductions in long-range strategic weapons and in conventional forces on the continent.

"Soviet willingness to re-examine the character of its conventional commitment in Central Europe would constitute a watershed in the East-West confrontation, affecting the justification for the Western nuclear posture."

It proposed intensified talks between NATO and the Warsaw Pact "aimed at reducing conventional forces and eliminating offensive strike potentials, particularly those designed for a surprise attack," including armour and tanks.

The task force made these other conclusion and proposals:

— The United States should press for a rapid conclusion of talks in Geneva on a verifiable agreement to eliminate chemical weapons, a step it said would lead to increased confidence in Europe at a time of uneasiness over the phase-out of medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles.

— Expanded East-West trade should be encouraged "except in areas of strategically important high technology."

— The United States should not subsidise trade with the Soviet Union but neither should it discourage the extension of private credit at prevailing rates.

— The prospect of granting the Soviet Union observer status at international trading organisations and at the International Monetary Fund should be held out "to encourage greater openness and information about the Soviet economy."

The report was prepared over the last eight months by a task force of 38 Americans prominent in a variety of fields working under the auspices of the Institute for East-West Security Studies in New York City. It was funded in part with grants from the Ford and Carnegie foundations and will be presented formally later this week at a conference at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Laurel impeachment mooted as right shapes up in Philippines

By Phillip Melchior
Reuter

MANILA — Angry congressmen have suggested impeaching Salvador Laurel as the Philippines' rebellious vice-president shaped a right-wing alliance that could act as a focal point for the coup-happy military.

Four administration congressmen condemned Laurel in the house of representatives late on Monday and said their formal resolution could act as a basis for impeachment.

Such a dramatic indictment was seen as most unlikely by independent political analysts polled by Reuters.

As Laurel and former Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile moved this week to formalise their common opposition to President Corason Aquino, analysts said a unified right-wing may stimulate further attempts at a military takeover.

"This is a concerted attempt to put something in place that is there, ready and waiting, if a coup comes off," said one analyst, who asked not to be identified.

Few analysts believe that a right-wing alliance would actively promote a rebellion like that which almost toppled Aquino seven weeks ago.

"But the point is that both the right and the left now see an opportunity there which didn't exist two months ago," one Asian diplomat said.

"They are stung by the talk that Aquino is safe because there is no alternative to her and they are putting together an alternative that aims to be there if the opportunity arises."

Commentator Amanda Doronilla wrote in the Manila Chronicle: "Such an alliance... may serve as an alternative government in case (Aquino) is forced to step down legally by the pressure of the current political crisis or is overthrown by a coup d'etat."

Aquino has made it clear to recent visitors that she has no intention of stepping down but another coup remains a real threat.

Colonel Gregorio Honasan, the fugitive officer who led the August 28 revolt, has hinted he will try again some time this month.

Although armed forces chief General Fidel Ramos says Honasan's support is now minimal, military analysts say much of the army is simply waiting to see which side appears likely to win the stand-off.

In the fluid world of Philippine politics, Laurel and Enrile — both of whom have unconcealed presidential ambitions of their own — have gone from being members of Aquino's cabinet to outright rivals.

While both men say they have not personally sat down together and deny a formal agreement has been reached, they have acknowledged talks between their aides.

Laurel has clout in the house of representatives, where about 50 of the 200 congressmen are linked to his party, although some have said they would stay with Aquino's loose coalition.

Enrile has influence and popularity with the military he nurtured during his 16 years as defence minister, first for the exiled Ferdinand Marcos and then for Aquino.

CORRECTION

In Lamis Andoni's article: The present dilemma of Arab Order: Any way out? (Jordan Times, Oct. 7), the writer names Dr. Musa Al Momani as co-author of the paper: The Arab Order: A historical perspective (1800-1987). This was in error; the paper was prepared by Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber, assisted by Dr. Faisal Al Ruffi.

LETTERS

Moving AUB?

To the Editor:

A LOT of talk has been circulating in recent days concerning Israel's suggestion to have the American University of Beirut (AUB) transferred to Tel Aviv. The news astonished everybody, and people are wondering whether this is a fund raising or a propaganda campaign.

Why do we blame Israel and the Israelis for our social and political maladies at a time when the cure is within our reach? The most effective cure to all our maladies lies in our ability to fight ignorance on all fronts and achieve an ultimate and conclusive victory over it. This does not mean divorcing ourselves from world cultures and communications. It simply means arming ourselves with knowledge, information, and education.

Is it not true that we, the Arabs, whether in Lebanon or elsewhere, are directly responsible for the unenviable position we presently occupy? Is it not true that we, the Arabs, have opened our borders and our homes to intruders in sheepskin, and have appointed them overlords to shape the destiny of our nation in accordance with their tastes and preferences? These ungrateful intruders, their supporters and associates, have played havoc with our principles and objectives, and are presently sowing the seeds of dissension, contention, and discord amongst our ranks.

Is the AUB more precious and dear to the hearts and souls of the Arabs than Jerusalem? If Israel intends and the USA agrees to the transfer of the AUB to Tel Aviv, then let them have it with a bouquet of roses. Anyhow, the AUB did not exist at the time of the Arab renaissance.

George N. Saig
P.O. Box 996
Amman

Most women in survey bemoan love life

By James Barron

NEW YORK — A sampling of women's attitudes on their relationships with men by an author of best-selling books on sexuality has found that 84 per cent of women queried were "not satisfied emotionally" with their marriages or romantic involvements.

The sampling, by Shere Hite, also found that 83 per cent of respondents did not believe that most men understand the basic issues involved in making intimate relationships work.

The findings are contained in a 923-page book, "Women and Love," that is to be published Oct. 26. It is the third and final volume in a series begun by Mrs. Hite in 1976, when she published "The Hite Report: A Nationwide Study of Female Sexuality." Her second book, "The Hite Report on Male Sexuality," was published in 1981.

Many feminists hailed the earlier Hite reports as groundbreaking, but critics complained that

her research techniques did not result in accurate readings.

The third in the series is a compilation of 4,500 responses from women, 14 to 85 years old, who voluntarily agreed to answer a long questionnaire about their relationships. In this way it is similar to Mrs. Hite's previous works.

For "Women and Love," Mrs. Hite mailed out more than 100,000 questionnaires beginning in 1980. To guarantee anonymity, which she considered essential for obtaining frank responses, she sent the questionnaires to various groups around the country rather than to individuals.

These included, she said, church groups in 34 states, women's rights organisations in 32 states and counselling centres for women or families in 43 states.

Her results, she said in an interview, indicated that "Women are frustrated enough to want to make fundamental changes."

"Women feel they have changed in relationships, but the men have not," she added.

According to Mrs. Hite, about 89 per cent of separated or divorced women who responded to the sampling said they were "lonelier" in their marriages than at any other time of their lives.

And, when asked to describe their favourite ways to "waste time" or do something fun, 92 per cent of the women mentioned activities they do alone.

Mrs. Hite said she was "shocked" by the married women's stories, and by what she called "the condescension with which they live" on an everyday basis. More than half of the women in the sampling reported that men "often negate or make fun of the feelings they express," putting them on the defensive.

In response to other questions in the sampling, 78 per cent of the women said the men in their relationships treated them as equals "only sporadically," and that they frequently had to fight

for their rights and for respect.

In addition, 76 per cent said they wanted to trust the man in their lives, but his behaviour made them wary. Yet many reported that when they sought reassurance from the man, they were put down for being "insecure."

"Women in this study see men as the group that should adapt," Mrs. Hite said.

The sampling found that 71 per cent of respondents who have been married or involved in relationships for more than two years felt they had been unable to produce significant changes by asking for them.

But while 17 per cent said they believed that change is impossible 21 per cent said they had changed noncommunicative relationships into equal, interactive relationships, often by going to counselling sessions with the man.

"This is the way men are," many said — The New York Times.

Chileans turn desert into farmland 'drop by drop'

By Eduardo Gallardo
The Associated Press

PICA, Chile — Literally drop by drop, an experimental irrigation technique is turning the world's driest desert into emerald-green farmland, producing grapefruit the size of bowling balls and a wide variety of other crops.

Agricultural experts say the government-financed project has an enormous potential to create jobs and bring much-needed export earnings to this indebted nation.

The centre of the project is Esmeralda, a 2,500-acre experimental farm near the town of Pica in the heart of the Atacama desert, 1,800 kilometres north of Santiago, the Chilean capital.

Esmeralda is producing a variety of fruits and vegetables on a commercial scale, agronomist Jorge Olave, who has managed the farm for six years, said in an interview.

Researchers at the farm have conquered the rainless climate through development of a technique known as "drip irrigation," Olave said.

"We use the little underground water available, and take it through plastic hoses to each tree or plant," he said.

A tour of the farm revealed a network of black plastic hoses covering the sandy ground, taking the water to every plant and tree. Irrigation is done at fixed hours, with two small drippers installed next to each plant, Olave said.

The technique has been dubbed in Spanish *gota a gota* — drop by drop.

It requires a little more water than in conventional agricultural zones, Olave said, "but yielding is far superior here, partly thanks to more intense sun during longer hours in the day."

For example, each grapefruit tree produces about 300 kilograms, and we can plant up to

300 trees per hectare."

He showed huge grapefruits produced in the farm, weighing up to 600 grammes.

Tomatoes are planted at an average of 50,000 plants per hectare with a yielding of 100 tonnes per hectare, almost twice as much as in the traditional tomato-producing zones in central Chile, he said.

The Esmeralda plantations also displayed oranges, mangoes, lemons, asparagus, apples, peaches, and avocados. Olave said other species have also been successfully tested, including kiwis, pears, watermelon, peppers and artichokes, and commercial production will start soon.

"The main thing is that we have proved that this can be done almost everywhere in the desert," Olave said. "In fact, the system is already successfully working at a number of small farms in this area."

A few miles away, the Matilla farm emerges as an isolated green spot in the middle of the grey desert.

Olave said around 150,000 acres in the desert have already been identified as suitable for transformation into high-yielding agricultural land. But the total area is "substantially larger," he said.

Hugo Rossi, a Santiago-based agronomist working on the project, said the programme "is definitely considered to have an enormous economic potential, capable of importance in terms of production, jobs and investment."

Another advantage, he said, is that weather conditions in the area allow production of a number of species, especially tropical fruits, which cannot be cultivated in other parts of the country.

Temperatures in the area during the day average 35 degrees Celsius during the day. By night, they fall to zero Celsius.

Randa Habibi's

Whistle in the dark

THE BOOKLET "Your Guide to Amman" includes names of foreign correspondents in Amman and their office, home telephone numbers.

As one of them, I often put up with nasty phone calls from people who have no interest whatsoever with press matters. And I know I am not the only one. My female colleagues share this misfortune.

I always welcome telephone calls from the readers who want to discuss different matters. This is an absolutely different matter. But then, there are the other telephone calls from those who just doing it for fun. And still I have learned to live with it: but not for long. The calls started coming regularly between 3:30 and 5:00 a.m. The situation became unbearable. I tried several ways to stop the calls, but none of them worked. Until one day, when I read in a magazine about some tips given to American women who suffer from nasty phone calls. One tactic prescribes blowing a whistle in the phone, right in the ear of the troublesome caller. The noise is so annoying, it seems, that the person will think twice before risking to hear the whistle another time.

And this is what I did, a few days ago, at 4:00 a.m., when my secret caller, phoned. Since then, our nights at home are peaceful. So, if you are troubled by mysterious callers, just keep a whistle handy.

Italians say minis are here to stay

By Daniela Petroff
The Associated Press

MILAN, Italy — There's no skirting the issue. The mini is firmly established on the Milan runway.

Only a year ago, the Italian ready-to-wear designers playfully revived the miniskirt in an effort to lighten their staid tailored collections and make them more competitive with their frivolous French cousins.

To their surprise, the new look won rave reviews and the French immediately retaliated by yanking up their own hemlines.

In March, the battle continued with each side of the Alps claiming the record for the shortest mini for the winter of 1977-78. Versace in Milan and Ungaro in Paris.

Relegated for almost two decades to the fashion attic, the mini suddenly has reappeared on

city streets with a boldness unknown to its Carnaby Street forerunner. Once reserved for the young and beautiful, the new mini has been claimed by all regardless of age or configuration.

The halls of the Milan trade fair where the spring-summer 1988 Italian ready-to-wear collections got under way Sunday, are a microcosm of the world outside.

Black leather miniskirts, super-short miniskirt-dresses, and chic plaid suits with blazer jackets almost longer than the matching skirt are the in look among fashion editors and buyers attending the shows.

"If you are over 25, you should not be allowed to buy one," said Paola Pisa, fashion editor for a Rome daily newspaper. "You can have your face lifted, your hips tapered, but they haven't invented a cure for aging knees. Knees are the giveaway."

In any case, the Italians know when they are on to a good thing and the top ready-to-wear designers are proposing even shorter, more daring hemlines for next year's warmer weather.

Krizia, who never shies from a daring trend — back in the early 1980s at the start of shoulder-padding, her box-shoulders could out-tackle any college football — presented her all-skirt collection Sunday with the longest outfit at least four inches above the knee.

The overall look is relaxed and youthful, safari style by day and birthday party demure by night with ruffled petticoat dresses in candid white or sweet floral prints.

For the all-nighters, Krizia offers shiny navy blue organza miniskirts barely reaching below the thigh or polka-dotted navy halter mini dresses.

In keeping with her Lolita birthday girl, Krizia limits her

accessories to big round plastic button earrings, short gloves and wide belts with the word "girls" printed on gaily coloured leather.

In general, Krizia let the clothes speak for themselves, keeping shades down to beige and gray by day, navy and white by night. Heels were on the low side, a departure from last season's Krizia mini look, when spike heels accentuated the distance from floor to hemline.

Later Sunday, the Michelangelo of Italian design, Gianfranco Ferré, who sculpts clothes rather than cutting them, presented his version of the summer mini, a super short skirt — at times so short it doesn't quite cover the buttocks.

This peekaboo mini in black patent leather stamped to look like crocodile skin served a double purpose: It can be a conversation piece as well as a water-resistant — if not bathing suit.

Brazil's popular anti-populist

There is a refreshing whiff of change in Brazil's political circles as an unconventional rising star makes himself and his policies known. Ivo Damay compiles a profile.

RIO DE JANEIRO — Can a man who unashamedly wears slappy blue blazers and Dior ties be a serious presidential candidate in a country where every millionaire normally strips to shirtless for the hustings?

This is a big talking point when Sao Paulo's political dinner parties switch the spotlight onto the city's latest rising star — Guilherme Afif Damay.

Nobody believes Mr. Afif will put himself forward for the next presidential race to succeed President Jose Sarney, either next year or 1989; the city's mayorship is his first target. But the 43-year-old deputy has a refreshing whiff of change with his expensive after shave.

education and health programmes among themselves rather than keep them as a state responsibility.

"The doctrine of statism that has dominated this country since 1930 has shown itself absolutely incapable of resolving social problems," he says. "It simply improves the conditions of those who manage the state at the expense of the taxpayer."

But he also insists that his philosophy of "social liberalism" is not just carefully camouflaged laissez-faire. Free and local bargaining between worker and employer, he claims, would produce

a more genuinely reformist system in which the cake would be cut by those who produce it without the cream being scraped off by parasites.

President Jose Sarney's populist rhetoric is no different from that of the left-leaning President Alan Garcia of Peru, he claims. "Populism is Brazil's tragedy, and with no real political parties we only have institutions inherited from colonial days — the state, the armed forces and the church."

Mr. Afif points out that world leaders from Thatcher to Gorbachev, Gonzales to Cavaco Silva in Portugal, are all surfing on the wave of "less government" while Brazil is drowning under inefficient or corrupt bureaucracy.

Essentially cautious, Brazilians

like the concept of modernity but actually fear change. Furthermore, conservative vested interests, for whom Mr. Afif's ideas are not only subversive but likely to be ruinous, are deeply embedded. As the country wallows in stagnation, the antique nationalism of both socialist left and conservative right is looking less and less adequate to tackle issues.


The fact that Mr. Afif's dream combines free enterprise, free unionism and an attack on the suffocating state could yet gain mass appeal in places such as Sao Paulo, where capital and labour are strong and organised. It will be less appealing, however, in the poor north-east, where only a government job provides security and status — Financial Times feature.

MORE LAND FOR CROPS


As the world battles to feed its ever-growing population, new land continuously must be opened up for agriculture. Although irrigation can have drawbacks — it may not always be cost-effective, and over-irrigation can result in excess salinity — it is recognized as the single most effective way to increase crop yields. In 1970 the world had an estimated 198.5 million hectares under irrigation. By 1994 the figure is expected to be 257.5 million.

Region	LAND UNDER IRRIGATION (Millions of hectares)		
	1970	1981	1994
South Asia	45.0	56.8	69.9
Asian centrally planned economies	39.7	47.9	54.3
North America	18.4	21.1	26.3
USSR	11.1	18.0	24.7
North Africa/Middle East	18.0	18.3	20.6
Latin America	10.2	14.4	18.4
East Asia	12.6	15.4	17.0
European Community	4.7	6.1	8.6
Eastern Europe	2.7	4.7	6.0
Sub-Saharan Africa	3.4	4.5	5.2
Non-EC Western Europe	3.1	3.9	4.6
Oceania	1.6	1.8	1.9

September 1987 Source: World Resources 1988 © Compass News Features, Luxembourg



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World Cup Cricket begins today

Pakistan favourites against Sri Lanka in opening of 8-nation championships

By Qamar Ahmad
Reuter

HYDERABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan start firm favourites against Sri Lanka in Thursday's opening match of the World Cup Cricket tournament, held amid tight security in Hyderabad.

A sell-out crowd of 15,000 should see plenty of runs on a lush green wicket, according to groundsman Abdul Aziz, though there are some dare patches on one side of the outfield.

Pakistan have won 13 of their 17 one-day internationals against Sri Lanka and Imran Khan's team are confident of adding to the total at Hyderabad's Niaz Stadium.

They will be looking to exploit Sri Lanka's main weakness, a lack of bowling power. Asantha de Mel, the most successful Sri Lankan bowler in the 1983 World Cup, is not as sharp as four years ago.

On the batting front, the Sri Lankans will lean heavily, as often before, on hard-hitting captain Duleep Mendis, one of only five men in the eight-nation tournament to have played in all four world cups.

Mendis warmed up on Monday by hitting 80 from 89 balls as he steered his team to victory over a Pakistani invitation XI in a practice match. Young opener Brendon Kuruppu made 67.

But Mendis will have been alarmed by an initial batting slump which saw Sri Lanka struggling at 20 for three.

Pakistan, one of the favourites to reach the Nov. 8 final, have the stronger line-up on paper and a much better record in the competition. In Imran, Wasim Akram and Salim Jaffer they boast a formidable peace attack.

But Imran will be well aware that Sri Lanka are capable of surprises. They beat India by 47 runs in the 1979 tournament and a strong New Zealand side by three wickets four years later.

The match, the first of 27 in Pakistan and India, will be attended by Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo after he inaugurates improvements to the stadium.

Hyderabad was hubbub with cricket fever and local authorities, aware of its history of ethnic rioting, were taking no chances with security.

Two thousand extra police have been drafted into the city, the biggest in the southern province of Sind after Karachi, and

security was tight around the stadium itself.

"Cricket for Peace" is the official motto for the World Cup tournament.

On the eve of the fixture, first in the eight-nation cup, the entire area around the stadium had been cordoned off by police, plain-clothes officers and paramilitary security units.

Prime Minister Junejo is due to be guest of honour at the match, formally opening a new \$200,000 pavilion for VIPs and the players.

Police said they would not allow into the ground flags, banners, firecrackers, bottles, glasses or other objects which could be used as missiles.

Spectators will be searched on entry and security cameras have been installed to spot any trouble-makers. Unlike in England and Australia, alcohol is not a problem in strictly Muslim Pakistan, where it is illegal and against religious principles.

Outside the stadium municipal fire engines sprayed trees with water to give them a fresh look at the end of one of the driest summers in recent years.

Armed police patrolled the streets to prevent any recurrence of the clashes between rival Mohajir and Pashtun communities over the past year.

A curfew was imposed on the city and scores of activists arrested in late August after the



Imran Khan

latest outbreak of ethnic blood-letting spread from Karachi.

At least eight people were killed in Hyderabad and dozens wounded as activists attacked each other and set alight shops and vehicles.

The Mohajirs (refugees), Muslims who migrated from other parts of India at partition in 1947, have mounted a campaign against alleged discrimination in several southern cities.

They have a large community in Hyderabad and frequently come into conflict with the Pashtuns, migrants from north-western Pakistan.

Everest remains highest

ROME (AP) — Italian scientists have presented new findings that Mount Everest and K2 have both "grown" but the Everest remains the highest mountain in the world.

The report to a scientific convention challenged preliminary findings by an American expedition to the Himalayas that K2 was actually higher than Everest, long considered "the roof of the world."

Ardito Desio, who led the Italian research team, said in a television interview Wednesday that the measurements were made with the help of American satellites and were absolutely precise.

The scientists from Italy's national research council found that both mountains were above their previously stated heights, K2 by 5 metres (16.4 feet) and Everest by 24 metres (78.7 feet).

This puts Everest at 8,872 metres (29,107 feet) and K2 at 8,616 metres (28,267 feet).

Soccer thugs apprehended

BIRMINGHAM, England (AP) — Police said Wednesday they had rounded up a notorious gang of soccer thugs who called themselves "the zulu warriors" and had been responsible for a three-year reign of violence at soccer grounds throughout England.

The West Midlands police announced they had arrested 37 men, aged between 18 and 40, and expected to charge them with offences including affray, wounding and criminal damage.

The arrests followed a police investigation codenamed "operation red card" and centred on the English second division club, Birmingham City.

Paul Leopold, West Midlands assistant chief constable in charge of operations, said the gang purported to be Birmingham City fans but were more interested in violence and mayhem than sport.

African soccer defeat sparks crisis in Egypt's Zamalek

By Muir Bowie
Reuter

CAIRO — A stunning defeat by Ghana's Kotoko soccer club in the African Champion's Cup plunged Zamalek of Egypt, the holders, into a crisis which has taken its toll on players, managers and officials.

Zamalek's British coach, Richard Parker, was dismissed after the 1-5 loss, his local assistants resigned and a new management took over.

Club chairman Hassan Amer and his deputy, Galal Ibrahim, also quit. Club officials are trying to persuade Amer to stay, but Ibrahim made clear he would not return.

Two players and club officials denied local press reports suggesting that they had deliberately lost the game to get rid of Parker.

"We have seen a video tape of the match several times. We came to the conclusion there was no collaboration to lose," Essam Bahieg, the new manager, told Reuters.

So angry were Zamalek's fans that one man beat his wife for taunting him about the defeat, according to a Cairo newspaper. She suffered minor injuries.

The government deployed truck-loads of security forces around the club for several days for fear of riots.

Zamalek had looked almost certain to reach the semi-finals of the African Champions' Cup after a 2-0 victory in the home leg. Sympathy went to National, Zamalek's city rivals, who lost 0-2 at Africa Sport of Ivory Coast in their away match in the same

round. But expectations for both teams, the glamour clubs of Egyptian soccer, were turned upside down when tested on the field on September 20.

Zamalek went down to Kotoko 1-5 in the away leg, the club's heaviest defeat in international competition. National, the Egyptian league champions, qualified for the semi-finals following a penalty shootout.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak later took the rare step of sending a senior official to Zamalek to urge the club to close ranks to overcome the crisis.

Commentators blamed differences among Zamalek officials and players. But they heaped most of the blame on Parker.

Bahieg said there were no differences among the players themselves but the poor performance against Kotoko was a spillover of conflicts between rival factions inside the club.

Asked to comment on the Kotoko match, he said he could not blame certain players. "The whole team is to blame... it was just one of those unlucky days — something which may happen to any team," he said.

THE Daily Crossword by Bernice Gordon



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YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED



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'A beer crowd on a martini night'

By James Little
The Associated Press

ROSEMONT, Illinois (AP) — This was one of those rare occasions when you didn't need a scorecard to figure out who the professional football players were — they were the ones out of costume.

In a scene that was by turns chaotic and comic, player representatives from each of the NFL's 28 teams shared a suburban Chicago hotel lobby Monday night with dozens of out-of-towners visiting the big city for a 4-H convention on farm safety.

In the end, it was difficult deciding who was having more fun.

The players got to fight their way through a crowded lobby, a

phalanx of TV crews, and likely each other in a late-night bid to devise a strategy that would bring the league's owners back to the bargaining table.

The 4-H crowd started slowly, with an instructional film. But they picked up speed with a masquerade ball and claimed the lobby by midnight, patrolling the halls as clowns or lions and the like while the players remained behind closed doors.

"We heard they were here and we figured we might see them, but not that close," said 12-year-old Leroy Thompson of Geismar, Louisiana.

"There was just me and another guy and 10 girls and we got in an elevator with (49ers quarterback) Joe Montana," he continued.

"And wouldn't you know it, they all got so dizzy, I thought they were going to faint," added Thompson. "That really would have been embarrassing."

Never mind that Joe Montana really didn't make the meetings (he doesn't belong to the union), when you've got this many celebrities rolling around, who's going to notice.

"Actually, this crowd was pretty well-behaved," said bartender Eileen Stanton, who was singularly unimpressed by the half-dozen Chicago Bears who filled a table.

"The regular 'Monday night football' crowd is usually much rowdier."

In deference to the strikers, perhaps, the large-screen television was moved to another part of the hotel. While the San Francisco 49ers struggled to a 41-21 win over the New York Giants, Ms. Stanton eyed a subdued crowd.

"Some nights, we get the wrestlers in here, the rock stars... whoever plays at the (nearby) horizon," she added. "Monday night is usually the martini-mixed drink crowd. This was mainly a beer night."

In New York NFL strike negotiations resumed after the union softened its stance on free agency, leading some players to predict regulars would be back on the field this weekend.

The talks, the first in 11 days,

involved only the chief negotiators — management's Jack Donlan and the union's Gene Upshaw. The site was undisclosed.

The two sides returned to the bargaining table following an eight-hour meeting in Chicago of the union's 28 player representatives.

The new talks also followed a weekend in which both sides seemed to lose — owners, because stadiums were filled to just 25 per cent capacity rather than the usual 90 per cent; players, because of nearly 90 defections and reports that many more, including entire teams, might cross picket lines this week.

"I think the pressures are beginning to build on both sides," commissioner Pete Rozelle said in Washington where he was testifying before a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the NFL's TV package.

Owners, meanwhile, put more pressure on players by moving up the reporting deadline from Friday to Wednesday. That means a player who wants to get paid for this weekend's games must report to his team by Wednesday, two days earlier than last week.

Players said they hoped a quick settlement could be reached if they moved away from their demand for unrestricted free agency after four years, the issue that stymied the last round of talks.

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At doctors' residence Tla' Al Ali with 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 sitting rooms, living room, dining room, washing room, open veranda, storeroom, garage, garden, private central heating and telephone.
Contact: 666591, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

FIRST RACE 3.30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES					SECOND RACE 4.00 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES				
Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight	Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1. Mohammed Nimir Badawy	Alyat	Owner	Thameen	54.5	1. Khalil Haddadin	El Harfy	Owner		56
2. Salim A. El Karem	Al Sharin	Owner	Basil	54.5	2. Khalil Haddadin	A. El Maha	Owner	A. Jabir	53
3. Tharrir Hazza El Hadeed	Bancon	Owner	A. Jabir	54.5	3. A. Jabir and Bakheel	Wardhi	Owner	Rasheed	54.5
4. Mamdouh Mohammad Khalil	F. Bnyal	Owner	Yousef	54.5	4. A. Jabir and Bakheel	Rabba	Owner	A. Amarah	53
5. Salim A. El Karem	Jraiban	Owner	Rasheed	53	5. Mashhour F.A. Jnab	Rabobah	Owner	A. Jagheef	51.5
6. Mousa Salman Hamid	R. Mashakbi	Owner	Mwafak	51.5	6. Mashhour F.A. Jnab	El Fahdi	Owner	Sulman	54.5
7. Saleem Khalil Khalil	Ashwas	Owner	Darallah	50	7. Samy Yacoub Madras	A. El Favens	Owner	Almad	51.5
8. Sead El Din Rida Saad	Isar	Owner	A. Amarah	50	8. Mamdouh El Hadeed	Richan	Owner		51.5
9. Ahmad A. El Azeze	M. Mahir	Owner		48.5	9. Ghalib Haddadin	Ikhas	Owner	George	51.5
10. Mikhlid Dawesh Bakheet	S. Mikhlid	Owner	Mahmoud	48.5	10. H.H. Late Sherif Nasir	Stable	Owner	Abbas	50
11. Dr. A. El Nasseem A. Wandy	N. Masser	Owner		48.5	11. H.H. Late Sherif Nasir	Stable	Owner	Abbas	50
12. Salim Hisham Nabulay	M. Salman	Owner	George	48.5	12. H.H. Late Sherif Nasir	Stable	Owner	Abbas	48.5
13. Mohammad Khalil El Farez	T. Khalid	Owner	Fawaz	48.5	13. Naja Wasil Baharat	Mothanna	Owner	Khairaldin	50
14. Hsain Mahmoud Hadeh	A. Hadeh	Owner	Samy	48.5	14. Ghazy A. Jabir	Basim	Owner		48.5
15. Nassef El Hadeed	Mashhour	Owner	Ahmad	50					

THIRD RACE 4.30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES					FOURTH RACE 5.00 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES				
Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight	Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1. Farhan Faith Oudh	B. Baze	Owner		56	1. Nimir El Hmoud	Sahary	Mahmoud	Kasim	53
2. Nimir Mohammad Khalil	Shalkah	Owner	Yousef	54.5	2. Nimir El Hmoud	Labadan	Mahmoud	Mahmoud	50
3. Shahr Farhan Rabayah	A. Naei	Owner		54.5	3. Nimir El Hmoud	Loah	Mahmoud	A. Jagheef	50
4. Khalil Farhan Rabayah	Ahmedy	Owner	Fawaz	53	4. Maysam Ibrahim Baharat	Adal	Khairaldin	Ahmad	50
5. Mashhour F.A. Jnab	S. El Arab	Owner	A. Jagheef	53	5. Hany Ibrahim Baharat	Mashhour	Owner	Khairaldin	50
6. Salim A. El Karem	Elkawa	Owner	Mwafak	50	6. Naja Wasil Baharat	M. Dina	Khairaldin	Rasheed	48.5
7. Aly El Masamih	M. Mikhlid	Owner		50	7. Noal Aly Fereed El Saad	Saad Aly	Khairaldin	A. Jabir	50
8. Salim Mazy Adwan	S. El Ghor	Owner		50	8. Aly Fereed El Saad	Saad Aly	Khairaldin	A. Jabir	50
9. Lorraine H. El Hadeed	Laly	Owner	Sulman	50	9. Sarah Aly Fereed El Saad	Dahman	Khairaldin	Yousef	50
10. Mohammad Salman	Hamshary	Owner		50					
11. Majdy Dawesh Bakheet	A. Majdy	Owner	Mahmoud	48.5					
12. Khalil Mohammad	B. Hsban	Owner	Ahmad	48.5					
13. Farhan Faith Oudh	Nadwah	Owner		48.5					
14. Ala Madin Abduy	B. El Hajar	Owner	Rasheed	48.5					
15. Dr. A. El Hadeez A. Wandy	Z. Maen	Owner	George	50					

FAST FORWARD

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

ABOUT LAST NIGHT

Performances 3:30, 6:10, 8:30, 10:30

Lebanese lira closes at 323 to dollar

BEIRUT (AP) — The Lebanese lira plunged to a record low against foreign currencies Wednesday as a worsening economic crisis tightened its grip on the civil war-plagued nation.

The lira, once the soundest currency in the Middle East, declined by 17 liras in one day

and closed at 323 to the U.S. dollar in the Beirut money market.

The lira rated 306 to the dollar Tuesday. The rapid slide was blamed on efforts by money speculators to absorb a 100 per cent wage increase announced by the government Monday.

The Voice of the Nation radio station blamed "blackmarketers feeding on the livelihood of the Lebanese people" for the sudden nosedive in the value of the lira.

The Lebanese lira, which rated 2.5 to the dollar before outbreak of the civil war in 1975, has been hard hit by 12 years of violence in a country that imports more than 85 per cent of its needs.

Moderate leaders blame the economic decline on the inability of authorities to collect taxes in the militia-ruled country, which strips the state treasury of its basic revenue.

British treasury chief says \$1.64 good level for pound

LONDON (AP) — Britain's chancellor of the exchequer, Nigel Lawson, said Wednesday that \$1.64 was a "very satisfactory rate" for the British pound.

In a radio interview with British Broadcasting Corporation, Mr. Lawson, Britain's treasury chief, also defended his proposals for stabilising the value of the U.S. dollar and other major currencies which he presented last week at the annual joint meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in Washington.

Mr. Lawson proposed that a more permanent arrangement for limiting fluctuations among the currencies should be based on the state of the economy as a single whole in the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Canada and Italy.

When asked whether \$1.64 is too high an exchange rate for the pound, Mr. Lawson said: "No, I think that is a very satisfactory rate."

Late Wednesday the pound was quoted at \$1.6395 in London. A treasury spokesman said Mr. Lawson's comment was consistent with his policy of holding the pound "around its present levels" to maintain the international competitiveness of British industry.

Mr. Lawson said stable exchange rates "produces a very important discipline against inflationary forces."

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.6382/92	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3070/80	Canadian dollar
	1.8263/70	West German marks
	2.0550/60	Dutch guilders
	1.5245/55	Swiss francs
	37.91/94	Belgian francs
	6.0775/0800	French francs
	1317/1318	Italian lira
	145.60/70	Japanese yen
	6.4075/4125	Swedish crowns
	6.6725/75	Norwegian crowns
	7.0100/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	458.60/459.10	U.S. dollars

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1987

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Flighter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You will have a very close perception of how to arrange your affairs in a more beneficial order, especially those of a financial nature. Be sure not to overlook the details of any plans which are pending.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): Depend on your common sense today. Try not to make mountains out of molehills, and find a way to get out of that rut you've been in.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): Work on improving your appearance, as this may play an important role in your success today. Accept advice graciously.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): Don't hesitate to make decisions in your business plans. Establish more harmony at home by helping your mate with chores.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): A close friend has a wonderfully suggestion for you. Don't be too headstrong and miss out on a great opportunity today.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): Your daily work is under scrutiny by a superior, so be willing to make any changes which are suggested. Try to be more cooperative.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): A wealthy woman can give you good, and profitable, ideas, even if your views differ. This is a good day to get into some favorite sports.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Family members can be quite helpful in handling business and financial affairs. If you have guests in, make

sure they are helpful ones.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Make time to answer questions from business associates. Talk over important contracts, giving special attention to the fine print.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Your daily activities can produce many benefits if you make a few simple changes. Co-workers can assist you with a new plan.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): An older friend can give you fine advice for your future. This evening has some surprises in store, and will be very memorable indeed.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): Try to solve problems at home in a more practical manner. Invite a few friends over; you can be of great help with their problems.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): An older friend can give you fine advice for your future. This evening has some surprises in store, and will be very memorable indeed.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY: He or she will have a fine understanding of what motivates people, and will be extremely adept at making investments. For this reason, a good business-oriented education would be a good idea, but don't neglect the humanities. A good, healthy diet is essential.

"The Stars insist: they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1987

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Flighter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Use more care than usual in the handling of money. Revamp your budget and eliminate unnecessary expenses. You must economize now, as there may be a need for emergency funds in the near future.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): Be wary of making any stupid mistakes. Get advice from a financial expert, but double-check it before you rely on it.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): Use tact when dealing in business today. A smile and some simple favors will go a long way. Improve your appearance if time permits.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): Be cautious in making any investments today. Be sure that you do nothing which will irritate a good friend this evening.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): Be slow and deliberate in pursuing your business interests. Postpone a meeting with friends until you really have time.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): Any problems which arise should be carefully thought over before you make any attempt to solve them. Be kind to anyone you meet today.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): If you're thinking about beginning a new recreation, first check into it carefully. Listen to the suggestions and opinions of others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Examine your business relationships and get advice from an expert before you make any changes. Be

sure to drive carefully.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): You'll be dealing with a very stubborn associate today, so try to strike a compromise. Pay particular attention to public duties.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Make sure you get all the week's work completed today. You won't be in the mood Monday morning. Be very cautious when driving.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): A recreation you've planned may cost much more than you expect. Show your mate your devotion and improve the home atmosphere.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): Don't become involved in any arguments at home, especially if money is concerned. Get more than one estimate for home repairs.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Be wary of making any oral or written mistakes which could be quite costly. Keep an eye on your purse or wallet if you travel today.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY: He or she will always have both feet planted firmly on the ground and will always maintain a practical attitude. Teach your progeny to study the ethical and moral sides of any ventures before getting into them. Try to set an open-minded example. Sports are a must here.

"The Stars insist: they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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Survey shows bankers taking gloomier view of world credit

NEW YORK (AP) — Bankers are taking a gloomier view of the world debt situation than they were six months ago, according to a survey by an American business magazine.

In a survey of 109 nations, Institutional Investor found that the average country's credit rating in September had dropped considerably from a similar survey last March, and even more from a year ago.

Every six months, the monthly magazine asks about 100 international banks to rate the creditworthiness of the 109 nations on a scale 0 to 100. In the magazine's September issue, Japan ranked first with a score of 95.4, and North Korea 109th with 4.3.

The global average rating was 39.3, down 0.7 points from last March and down 1.2 points from September 1986.

Countries with higher ratings generally find it easier to borrow from the banks and are likely to get better terms on loans.

Since last March only two countries — the Philippines and East Germany — gained a full point or more, while the ratings of 34 countries declined by at least a point.

The biggest losers were Brazil, down 3.8 to 31.7, Australia, down 3.5 to 27.9, and Gabon, down 3.4 to 34.5.

Institutional Investor notes that every region of the world suffered a decline, because of "a common malaise among lenders."

Third World nations alone owe more than \$1 trillion (million-million), and the banks "are looking more carefully at what they're doing abroad," according to a banker quoted by the magazine.

The biggest regional loser was North America, which dropped

1.1 points to 89.2, "largely because the United States fell 1.6 points." The \$240 billion U.S. foreign debt is worrying bankers.

In the Asia-Pacific region, the credit ratings of Australia and New Zealand dropped sharply, to 72.9 and 65.5 respectively. One banker told the magazine "both benefited for a long time from the fallacious notion that English-speaking white countries were sure things in the debt-risk department, but suddenly we... saw that they were both on the way to becoming banana republics."

The Philippines gained 1.2 for a rating of 23.3. One banker cited its "solid record of monetary and fiscal management in the last half-year."

The second-largest decline since last March was in Africa, where the average country rating dropped 0.9 to 19.6. South Africa, "which had led every list of losers in recent surveys, registered only a 1.5 point drop this time."

South Africa now ranks fifth in creditworthiness in Africa, with 31.3. Algeria, number one, dropped 2.0 points to 4.8.

In Latin America, Brazil led the list of the world's losers with a decline of 3.8 points, "dragging down the entire region." Brazil's rating is 31.7. However, Latin America still slightly outranks Africa with an average 21.2 rating.

In Western Europe, Switzerland "took a puzzling drop" of 1.1 points, to 93.1, although bankers see nothing alarming about its financial situation.

"Maybe some people are worried about the political or strategic side or its future as a financial center," one banker said.

"Hungary's failure to address its deficits made it the largest

loser," with a 1.8 drop to 47.9. East Germany rose 1.2 points to 57.4 and is now up 9.9 points since March 1985. According to one West German banker, "the East Germans haven't really borrowed anything recently, so the perception is... they must be in good shape."

In the Middle East "the major oil producers have stabilized, but their poorer cousins keep on sinking," and the average regional rating dropped 0.7 points to 37.3.

Egypt, the biggest loser, was down 2.1 points to 23.5, due to "the loss of direct oil income and the effect of lower oil prices on worker remittances" from Egyptians in other oil-producing countries.

"Continuing political turmoil" took its toll again in Lebanon "and a nation that was once the most advanced in the Middle East now ranks 102nd out of 109 countries," at 8.2.

Jordan slips slightly

Jordan ranked 53 with a credit rating of 35.7, down 1.7 points from March.

Iran, USSR agree to form shipping line

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran said Tuesday it has reached an agreement in principle with the Soviet Union to set up a joint shipping line on the Caspian Sea.

Transport Minister Mohammad Saeedi-Kiya said the ships would sail between the Iranian ports of Bandar Anzali and Nowshahr to Baku in the Soviet Union.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted him as saying two Iranian cargo ships would ply the route. It did not say when the line would begin to function.

Moscow and Tebran, after years of strained relations, have in recent months held economic cooperation talks in Tehran and Moscow. The shipping line was one of several projects mooted then.

In addition to the line, the Soviets are sending technicians to Iran to help complete a steel mill and a power station. The two nations also are discussing a possible rail link.

Relations between Tehran and Moscow worsened after the 1979 Islamic revolution, a crackdown on the pro-Soviet communist Tudeh Party and the Soviet invasion of neighboring Afghanistan.

The improvement in ties began last year at a time when Iran was emerging from a post-revolution isolation, and apparently was partly prompted by a desire to find a counterweight to the United States.

Iran also has resumed sales of natural gas to its huge northern neighbor, and also stands to gain economically from the shipping and other proposed deals.

U.S. Congress bans all imports from Iran

WASHINGTON (R) — An embargo on imports from Iran, including oil, was approved by both houses of the U.S. Congress in a bid to put America's economic policy in line with its military posture in the Gulf.

The Senate and House of Representatives approved separate bills on Tuesday calling for a total embargo of Iranian goods, a far cry from the two houses must agree a single version of the bill, which could be sent to President Reagan this week.

The White House has said it is sympathetic to the embargo legislation but must study the bill's implications before announcing a position on it. U.S. officials have said it would be very difficult to enforce an embargo.

Both the House and Senate measures would bar all Iranian goods but would allow President Reagan to delay the embargo for up to 180 days if he felt it was in U.S. interests to do so.

U.S. imports of oil and other Iranian products, such as textiles and pistachio nuts, have averaged about \$600 million annually in recent years.

This year, however, the United States has already purchased about \$700 million in crude oil from Iran. The highest import level came in July, the month U.S. protection of Kuwaiti tankers from Iranian attack in the Gulf began. Iran is not ordinarily a top exporter of oil to the United States but in July was second only to Nigeria.

Some legislators and independent experts said a U.S. embargo on Iranian oil would have little impact on Iran because Tehran could sell its inexpensive oil elsewhere and the United States would have to purchase higher-priced petroleum, resulting in a minor rise in U.S. oil prices.

"It means something symbolically but I don't believe it is a solution to our problems," said House Speaker Jim Wright.

But other legislators, including Democrats who oppose the U.S. protection operation in the Gulf, said it was important to send Iran a message that it was not "business as usual" as long as Tehran refused to negotiate an end to its seven-year war with Iraq and caused hostilities in the waterway.

About 50 U.S. warships have been sent to the Gulf in the last few months to protect 11 Kuwaiti tankers flying the American flag. Iran sees the U.S. military build-up and Washington's support for Kuwait, a backer of Iraq, as provocations.

Iran has not staged any overt attacks on U.S. forces but has been accused by the United States of laying mines in Gulf waters. U.S. forces recently attacked and seized an Iranian ship which Washington said was laying mines.

The Senate is expected to consider a bill soon, possibly this week, to force President Reagan to invoke the 1973 war powers act, which could result in a pull-out of U.S. forces from the Gulf. The measure is expected to be defeated.

There is more Senate support to limit the U.S. protection operation to 90 days.

Wall Street drop drags down world share prices

LONDON (R) — Share prices around the world tumbled on Wednesday after Wall Street's record one-day drop the day before. The dollar also slid, while gold firmed slightly.

Despite the stock market falls, dealers said most investors remained calm in the face of mounting concern that inflation and interest rates around the world are set to rise. These were the worrying factors that set off the 91.55-point fall in the Dow Jones industrial average on Tuesday to 2,548.63.

In one market, Hong Kong, investors decided an initial sell-off meant there were bargains to had. Their buying sent the Hang Seng index up nearly 27 points to 3,936.

In most markets, however, dealers shared the view of the Frankfurt broker who said: "There are few incentives for fresh activity."

The dollar fell more than one pfennig and one yen on Wednesday, to touch a morning low of 1,822.5 West German marks and 145.35 Japanese yen. The price of gold was 55 cents an ounce higher at the London morning fix on Wednesday at \$458.55.

In London, the 100-share Financial Times Stock Exchange index opened 20.8 points lower at 2,347.1. Tokyo's 225-share nikkei index closed 136.7 points lower at 25,952.27, and Sydney's all-ordinaries index dropped 29.7 points to 2,217.2.

In Paris, not even a slight drop in interest rates lifted the gloom. One dealer predicted: "We could see the bourse indicator drop by two per cent today."

Generally, dealers and investors expect interest rates around the world to rise as central bankers — especially in the United States — move to cool off overheating economies before borrowing, free-spending consumers set off a new round of inflation.

Israel will import goods from China

TEL AVIV (AP) — China will begin importing goods to Israel for the first time, a trade ministry spokesman said Tuesday.

The spokesman, Amiram Fleischer, confirmed a report to that effect published in the daily Yedioth Ahronoth but refused to add more details, saying: "The subject is so delicate I cannot elaborate."

The newspaper reported that Trade Minister Ariel Sharon met recently with a visiting group of Chinese businessmen and agreed to their request to export to Israel "on a reciprocal basis."

Yedioth wrote that Israel has already begun exporting and that some goods are shipped directly to China from the Red Sea port of Eilat.

The paper said Sharon refused to say what goods Israel and China were selling to each other.

It reported that Israel also exports to China via Hong Kong. The exports to Hong Kong include large amounts of clothing, especially bathing suits.

China and Israel do not maintain diplomatic relations but have gradually stepped up their unofficial ties over the past few years.

Last week the two countries held their highest-level talks to date when Foreign Minister Shimon Peres met his Chinese counterpart, Mr. Wu Xueqian, at the United Nations in New York.

Following his talks with the Chinese foreign minister Peres said: "The meeting with the foreign minister of China... indicated a change and the Chinese saw it as such."

The decision, which will apply to contracts signed after the adoption of the measure, stipulates that the non-Israeli employees working for these companies will also be exempted from income tax.

The move is part of a government plan to encourage foreign investment.

Leading Soviet economist urges market competition

MOSCOW (R) — A leading Soviet economist on Tuesday urged the introduction of competition to the country's socialist economy as state monopolies were failing to provide the market with adequate goods and services.

Mr. Leonid Abalkin, head of the Soviet Economics Institute, told the trade union newspaper Trud that competition would be consistent with socialism if firms spurred the profit motive and competed for the good of society.

"Extreme economic centralization has led to monopolistic tendencies, that is, to a situation in which in many cases we have a single supplier of goods, a single body handling research and construction in a given sphere, etc," he said.

Mr. Abalkin said this had led to a decline in quality, and used the Soviet shoe industry as an example.

"Today we produce as many leather shoes as the United States, West Germany, England and France taken together. But it's impossible to choose a good pair in a shop," he said.

Mr. Abalkin said a good starting point would be competition between state firms and non-state cooperatives.

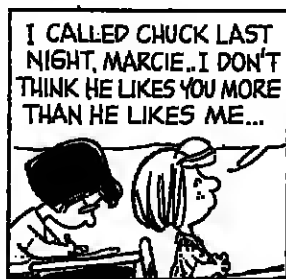
He said consumers presented with a choice would buy the best goods, ensuring profitability for the producer.

Turning to price increases for basic goods due to be introduced from 1990, Mr. Abalkin said state subsidies in fact benefitted well-to-do families at the expense of the low-paid.

He said the Soviet Union produced enough meat for each person to receive 62 kilograms annually, but research showed that families with high incomes bought 90 kilograms a person and those with low incomes much less.

This meant that if the state contributed two rubles to the production of each kilogram of meat, a well-off family effectively received a subsidy of 180 rubles per person, three times as much as others in the low-paid bracket, he said.

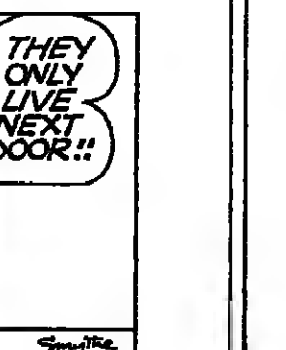
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff

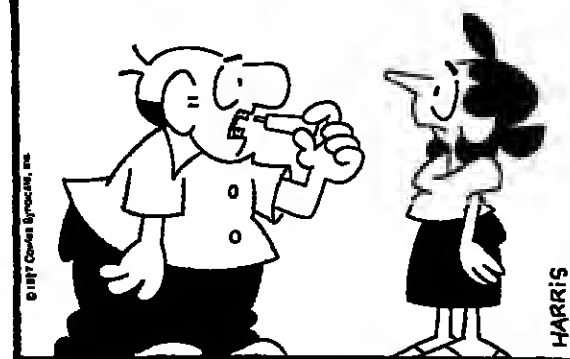


Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

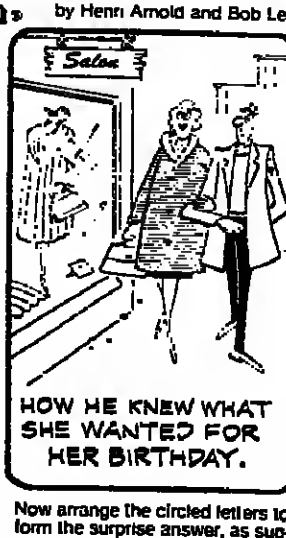


JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Herri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CLUD
ANDAP
FIURAN
BURNEM



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: HE "CLUD-ANDAP-FIURAN-BURNEM" IT (Answers tomorrow)

COLOMBO (R) — Tamil militants shattered Sri Lanka's fragile ethnic ceasefire on Wednesday in an explosion of violence that left nearly 160 civilians and soldiers dead, military and police sources said on Wednesday.

The Indian government sent General Dipender Singh, its top

men, women and children, and killed four people in an attack on a Sinhalese village near the northern city of Vavuniya on Wednesday morning, they said.

Col. Rabuka opened the day with the midnight-decree establishing the republic — ending

PEKING (R) — China said foreigners are advised not to visit Tibet. Fan Peilian, a senior official

Pakistan hands over seized

Average speed in Italian cities is 5 kph

MILAN (AP) — The automobile industry may be booming slower along in Italy, but in many Italian cities, cars are crawling slower than

MANILA (Agencies) — President Corazon Aquino on throw Mrs. Aquino. Mrs. Aquino showed no sign of to stop the rebellion which has the backing of the political

Seoul accuses N. Korea of sinking southern trawler	Kaunda warns armed revolt in
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s of possible
n S. Africa

SEOUL (R) — A North Korean warship sank a South Korean ship. The north rejected South Korean Red Cross calls for the

GOREN BRIDGE

Suspicion shifts to injured uncle of slain teenager in

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan handed over six Soviet airmen to the Soviet embassy on Thursday.

The six were turned over to Soviet Ambassador Abdul Rahman Vazirov, who accompanied them in a motorcade to the closed Moscow embassy compound.

Rupert Murdoch in 1986, bought the hotel from the family of Ivan Boesky and others for about \$135 million last December. The sale followed Boesky's \$100-million settlement of insider-trading charges brought by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Edited by Herb Ettore

ACROSS

1 South's item 41 Ship 72 Garner 100 Eastern VIP

6 Total amounts	43 Die too no-no	73 Nerve suffer	101 Retrospect a	38	38	38	38
7 TV letters	44 Omelet	74 Assail other	102 Retrospect a	38	38	38	38
8 Leader lists	45 Paroli sends	75 Baited	103 Retrospect a	38	38	38	38
9 Mrs. Garobach	46 — Lanka	76 Horned animals	104 —el Kufm	38	38	38	38
10 Son of Jacob	47 —	77 Following	105 —	38	38	38	38
11 Just	48 Be frugal	78 —	106 —	38	38	38	38
12 Conclusions	49 Temporary	81 Building wing	107 Goshes	38	38	38	38
13 Start of a saw	50 —	82 —	108 Traffic helico-	38	38	38	38
14 Quite ready	51 Article	83 —	109 — picture	38	38	38	38
15 —, when	52 Early given	84 —	110 — defense	38	38	38	38
16 Ye Old —	53 Kind of bunny	85 — (Linh Chin,	111 Old Br. coast	38	38	38	38
17 More gloomy	54 Best par	86 — (mountain)	112 Thought; past	38	38	38	38
18 Goss — (with	55 Victim)	87 —	113 —, Men on a	38	38	38	38
19 Vice)	56 Audubon Soci-	88 —	114 — Horse	38	38	38	38
20 Individual	57 —	89 —	115 College official	38	38	38	38
21 Zee favorite	58 Scored at tennis	90 —	116 Poetic time	38	38	38	38
22 Fairbanks' state	59 Artifacts	91 —	117 23-umbered	38	38	38	38
23 Winding word	60 —	92 — much	118 —	38	38	38	38
24 End of 21A	61 (gortandis)	93 Egyptian dady	119 —	38	38	38	38

[illegible]

<i>Diagramless</i> 19 x 19, Roger Colvins		CRYPTO	
ACROSS			
1 Step	25 Distributes	45 Fencing blades	63 Lager
5 Arabian robes	27 Place	66 Battle	84 Escape by cleverness
9 Date on	28 Welsh poet	47 — off (started a golf game)	67 Man of great strength
11 — Wales	30 Thomas	48 Very long time period	68 Singles
12 Eric-a-brac shelves	35 — over (sturdy carefully)	48 Those using straw	69 Truman's biplane
14 Resistant	38 Unconscious	51 Curtain	70 Strut
16 Early slayer	38 Sired	54 Author Fleming	72 Little guys
17 Rugged rock	38 Headed	65 —	73 Photograph needles
19 Bethlehem product	42 At no time	57 Got satisfaction for	74 Being: Lat.
20 It flew	44 Farmers at times	61 Juvenile	75 Raced
21 — firma			
22 Kitchen flipper			
DOWN			
1 Surface film	16 Admonishment	37 Abominable	59 Jewel cases

1 "A ball for --"	18	Drab color	30	Snowman	58	"Where are the -- of yesterday?"
2 Machine part	22	Assailed	36	S. Afr. Dutch	60	Curlew
4 Vertical	24	Exclamation of reproach	38	Crisp darkness	62	Make jabber
6 Too bad!	26	Rejoice	40	Pay attention	64	Pr. author
8 Greatest	28	Tactfulness	41	To the left, aboard ship	66	Tiny insects
7 Years	30	Tennis needs	43	Seaside	68	Specter
9 Followers	31	Intel	44	Baseball's	70	Caustic
10 Strayed	32	God of war	45	Cooley	71	Defraud
12 Nobleman	33	Survive	50	Stilet		
13 Having handles	34	Sprits	52	Fully constituted		
15 Struck with the palm	36	Fully constituted				

4. DIPTY OSPJV SPOT E.

BIBIT ALLUFFY KID.

1 11 12 18 14 15 18

20

26

27

31

36

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41 42 43 46 45

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53

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56

57

58

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60 61 62

pytograms

high, as long as I can pay, I still
ments made by brother involved in
according to the real estate agent.
at a dime.

GRAMS
UP LYM, ZYM QUOHM
LR UNFCOOCLH
N EPCMCE. —By Len Sherry
IL FWEF TOGG CEHI
DIK HEBEDKI TEKL
AGEFIL. —By Gordon Miller
DA KELG QEX XDUY
GOELX GOYCG.

[illegible]

**BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF**

Both vulnerable North deals.

NORTH
♠ K 7 6 3 2

♠ Q 9
 ♥ K 4
 ♦ 8 3

WEST
 ♠ Q 8
 ♥ 5 2
 ♦ 10 9 7 5
 ♣ K 9 6 4

EAST
 ♠ A 10 9 4
 ♥ 8 7 3
 ♦ 6 2
 ♣ J 10 3 2

SOUTH
 ♠ 5
 ♥ A K 10 6 4
 ♦ A J 8 5
 ♣ A Q 7

The bidding:
 North East South West
 Pass Pass 1♣ Pass
 2♥ Pass 4♥ Pass
 4♥ Pass 6♥ Pass
 Pass Pass

When the queen of spades was held, shifted to a diamond. If trumps were 4-1, the defenders could probably have made

life difficult for declarer by continuing spades, as it seemed that that suit was likely to break 3-2. In that case, there were two possible lines. The obvious one was a club finesse—a straight 50 percent chance. Not so obvious was the combined dummy reversal and suit establishment play in spades. That would need a 4-3 spade break, and the odds on that were better than 60 percent.

Declarer won the king of diamonds, ruffed a spade high and re-

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

You do not need to know everything about the mathematics of the game to be a good bridge player. But some knowledge is a nice bonus for the accomplished player. Here's a simple example, from a tournament in Indiana.

After North's jump raise, South decided that slam was a possibility and asked for the ace of clubs. With no ace to cue-bid, a good declarer, North chose to show his diamond feature. While South was not sure

of seven members of a rural family turned their suspicion from a slain boy to his wounded

Schnick was wounded, and police found a gun in Kirk's right hand.

Officials said Tuesday that suspicion turned from Kirk to his uncle after they learned that

vestigator said the uncle, James E. Schnick, admitted during a two-hour interrogation Monday that he was responsible for the shootings on the morning of Sept. 25.

"As far as I'm concerned, it's a confession," Sergeant Tom Martin said. "He told us he did it."

Schnick, 36, was taken to court Tuesday on charges that he murdered his wife and six other relatives.

Schnick shook while he stood on crutches before Webster County Associated Circuit Judge

Fraker after they learned that Schnick's wounds were minor and that the teenager was left-handed.

Schnick was hospitalised for four days after the shootings. Fraker said the first real indication that he might be a suspect came when officials found out more about the gunshot wounds he suffered.

"His wounds were not nearly as serious as we were led to believe," said Webster County Sheriff Eugene Fraker at a news conference. "At the time we thought they were life-threatening."

Daniel Max Knust, hut quietly answered "Yes, sir," when the judge asked if he understood the seven first degree-murder charges filed against him Monday.

Earlier, Schnick had claimed that he killed his nephew, Kirk Buckner, in a struggle after the youth killed Schnick's wife, Julie, 30. The Schnicks' two children were unharmed.

Deputies then went to the Buckner farm, about eight kilometres away, and found the

13 Stays for a	compound	75 Guido's notes	letters
while	42 Weeping woman	77 Explosive	104 Dramatic
14 Chico's brother	44 Gr. region	78 Residue	Clifford
15 "— to come —"	45 Giggles	80 Reveal	167 Walked

18 o'clock	40 Fiscal: presl.	82 Share	10W Evil
18 Exclamation of scorn	48 South of Eur.	83 Eternally	188 Shoe w
19 Share	50 Salmon spawning arena	84 Glitter rations	110 Humor
20 Epics	51 Afr. village	85 Jungle beast	111 Wrath
22 Sort	52 Latvian	86 Sea engine	112 -- Adv
		87 Ms Lupino	115 Affluence

Digamless 29 x 19, Roger Colburn			
ACROSS			
1 Step	25 Disturb	45 Fencing blades	63 Lager
5 Arabian robes	29 Plates	49 Bedfile	64 Escape
9 Date on	28 Welsh poet	47 — off (started a war)	65 Clavens
11 Wales	30 Prisoner	48 Very long time	66 Strung
12 Etc.—a brace	34 Holiday time	49 Long time period	68 Singles
14 Resident	35 — over (safety carefully)	48 Those using	69 Trammels
16 Early slayer	36 Unchance	49 Curtain	70 Sins
17 Rugged rock	38 Sins	54 Author Fleming	72 Little g
19 Bethlehem product	40 Divided	48 Jogs	73 Phonog
21 A river	42 No time	57 Self satisfaction	74 Seedling
23 — firms	44 Farmers at times	61 Juvenile	74 Being
26 Kitchen flipper			75 Raced
DOWN			
1 Surface film	16 Admonishment	37 Abominable	53 Jewel
2 "A Bell for —"	18 Orb color	38 S. Afr. Dutch	55 "Where the
3 Machine part	22 Assured		the

[illegible]

Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Though their cost has gone up sky-high, as long as I can pay, I still

2. Lie detector test belied many statements made by briber involved in scam.
3. This old property is really an estate, according to the real estate agent.
4. Once upon a time unread papers cost a dime.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. APUNK Z FLICK QUO DUP LYM, ZYM QUORH
QLPMB MBK SPECK LH UNFCOOCLH
UEELPNCHA ML SKKIKN EPCMCE. —By Len Sherry

2. ZACF IRMIBF LABOIFOL FWEF TOGG CEHI
WJKKOBECIL ECZ CJHDIK HEBEDKI TEKL
FA IRWEJLF GOBICLI MGEFIL. —By Gordon Miller

3. CDHH JELX JYIX GCDA KELG QEX IDUV
KECO AVHEDQHV GUDGOELX GOYCG.
—By Earl Ireland

4. DITPY OSPIV SPOT EIDVIAO KIANLSCOR

BIBIT ALLUPT KID. —By Lois R. Jones

SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

ACROSS	DOWN
1. BIRD	1. HILL
2. FISH	2. CLOUD
3. TREE	3. STAR
4. FLOWER	4. WIND
5. LEAF	5. SUN
6. ROCK	6. MOON
7. MOUNTAIN	7. OCEAN
8. RIVER	8. LAKE
9. VALLEY	9. PLAIN
10. DESERT	10. JUNGLE
11. TROPIC	11. ARCTIC
12. EQUATOR	12. NORTH POLE
13. SOUTH POLE	13. ANTARCTICA
14. ICEBERG	14. WHALE
15. SHIPWRECK	15. CRAB
16. SQUID	16. EEL
17. OCTOPUS	17. SEA URIN
18. DOLPHIN	18. MANatee
19. PORPOISE	19. MANatee
20. MANatee	20. MANatee